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Hafa Adai!

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FY '16 cap for CW program reached

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

For the first time since the beginning of the CNMI-only transitional worker program, the U.S Citizen and Immigration Services has reached its fiscal year cap for the visa classification.

According to USCIS, it has "received a sufficient number of petitions to reach the numerical limit of 12,999 workers who may be issued CW-1 visas or otherwise provided with CW-1 status for Fiscal Year 2016."

The final receipt date for CW-1 worker petitions included in the current fiscal year was May 5.

Now that the cap is reached, USCIS will reject CW-1 petitions with employment start dates prior to Oct. 1, 2016 and were received after May 5, 2016—including CW-1 petitions for extensions of stay that are subject to the CW-1 cap.

» Labor encourages H-2B applications for qualified workers

"If an extension petition is

See CW on Page 4

Torres administration expects CW needs to 'outpace' available cap

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres acknowledged yesterday that hitting the cap was "expected" but it could not yet assess in which sector did the bulk of CW applications had gone to, or the extent of a remaining unmet labor force with the cap being hit, when answering questions from *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Officials say it is likely that the CW cap was distributed more this year a demand for construction workers to meet development project plans.

"With increased economic development in the CNMI it was expected that our labor needs would outpace the availability of foreign workers under the CW program this year," said the Torres administration in a statement to

See TORRES on Page 4

THOMAS MANGLONA II

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres delivers the congratulatory remarks during 2016 Northern Marianas College Commencement Exercises last Saturday at the Koblerville gymnasium. At his left is NMC interim president Davit J. Attao.

More photos on Page 15

Record-breaking number of students graduate from NMC

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
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CORRESPONDENT

The past, present, and future intermingled in the eyes of students graduating as a part of Northern Marianas College's largest class while they turned their tassels and officially became alumni at the Koblerville gymnasium last Saturday.

NMC interim president Davit J. Attao congratulated the 204 graduates and their families, thanking them for believing in the education the college provides.

"You are here and we continue to strive and we all did it with one main purpose: for all of you to attain and achieve your goal of graduation," he said, speaking about the resiliency of students and the island after Typhoon Soudelor. "You've earned your degrees. No one else can take that from you."

Attao noted that nearly half of the graduates will return to NMC to "climb higher" in their education and study under their bachelor's programs. A number of the other graduates, he added, will take care of their family, join the armed forces, and seek employment.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, U.S Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP), Saipan Mayor David Apatang, members of the House of Representatives, department heads, and other dignitaries joined the community in congratulating the students on their achievement.

In his address, Torres recounted his childhood experience of living with several family members in one bedroom. The governor spoke of his siblings' struggle to attain higher education and his parents, who made it possible for them to do so.

"We never realized how

See NMC on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
The charm of this "Friendly Island" rests in its rugged and rustic character—and most notably, of course, its remarkably receptive residents.

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ASIA
President Barack Obama departed Saturday on a weeklong, 16,000-mile trip to Asia.

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LIFE & STYLE
Kristen Stewart says she feels "pretty good" in her own skin, but that hasn't always been the case.

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Local

ARMY CID SPECIAL AGENT TESTIFIES:

'Jucutan admitted stealing personal information'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command Special Agent Elizabeth H. Smith testified on Friday that during their interview, Jordan M. Jucutan issued a sworn statement admitting that he stole personal information from 18 potential soldiers to obtain money.

» Defense's witnesses say Jucutan trustworthy, helpful

As this developed, the U.S. government rested its case on Friday and defense counsel Pamela Brown Blackburn began calling their witnesses.

The jury trial of Jucutan will

See JUCUTAN on Next Page

Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

Instagrammers Tour Saipan and Rota

The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) recently hosted 13 popular Instagrammers from Korea for a 4-day FAM tour aimed at raising awareness of the Northern Marianas among young and trendy Koreans.

The tour group visited both Saipan and Tinian, capturing memories and photos to be shared on their blogs and for other promotional events. In addition to trolling and an ATV tour with Let's Go Tour, they visit Rota's bird sanctuary, As Matmos latte stone site, As Nieves Latte Stone Quarry, Songsong Village Lookout, the Rota Swimming Hole, and more. They also toured Hyatt Regency Saipan and Rota Resort & Country Club, where they lodged.

The event was also supported by Jeju Air, which offered discount air fares. So far this fiscal year, visitor arrivals from Korea –just over 106,000 visitors - comprise 37 percent of total visitor arrivals.

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JUCUTAN

From Page 2

resume today, Monday, at 8am in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

The defendant, a teacher and a former member of the U.S. Army Reserves, is facing eight charges for allegedly engaging in a scheme to defraud and to obtain money by falsely claiming he referred soldiers to enlist in the Army Reserve through the Army Reserve Recruiter Assistant Program (AR-RAP). The charges are four counts of wire fraud and four counts of aggravated identity theft.

Shown by assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing with a copy of Jucutan's sworn statement, Smith said according to Jucutan in his narrative statement he was "young at that time and being spontaneous."

"I know what I did was wrong and I am truly sorry for what I have done," said Jucutan in his sworn statement.

Smith said she was present when Jucutan made the sworn statement and signed the waiver of his constitutional rights at the Federal Bureau of Investigation office on Saipan on March 31, 2015.

In response to Lorfing's question, Smith said during their interview, the defendant was not arrested at that time and if he stated he wanted an attorney, the interview would have been stopped.

Smith described the interview as pleasant as Jucutan is friendly and likeable.

The special agent said there was no point when they yelled at Jucutan and that he was given a break during the interview.

Smith said it was Jucutan who typed his narrative statement.

In the statement, Jucutan said there were 18 potential soldiers that he recruited that were not legitimate.

Jucutan said he stole the personal information from potential soldiers during the day of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test by giving them a paper to fill out.

The defendant said the potential soldiers would put in their full name, death of birth, and Social Security number, which are required when inputting potential soldiers into AR-RAP.

He said the potential soldiers wrote in the paper without knowing what it was for.

Some of them, the defendant said, had their information stolen through a "recruiter" who gave him some potential soldiers' personal information and told him that he should put them on his system.

Jucutan said all of his recruits were not illegitimate.

At the beginning, Jucutan said, he was really active and willing to help out potential soldiers that he would go out and ask people if they wanted to join the military.

Jucutan said he would help them study by giving them an ASVAB book that he had then.

Jucutan said his life changed when his then-girlfriend, who is now his wife, told him that she was pregnant.

"I dropped everything. I didn't know what to do anymore. I didn't know if I was to run away, do an abortion, or stay with her. There were a lot of things on my mind then," he said.

Jucutan said he decided to stay with his then-girlfriend and now wife and help her raise their child.

He said they did not have much money then.

"So my reason for doing such thing was because I needed money for my baby. I wanted to raise her up not worrying about food or transportation. I wanted the best for her," he said.

Smith said Jucutan admitted that he lied in his previous statement during the first interview on March 5, 2015, because he was scared of the outcome.

Smith said when she asked why the 18 potential soldiers

See JUCUTAN on Page 4

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Honda Pilot EX retail price $44,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 72 monthly payments of $613.70 or $274.13 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $42,765.60.

Obama green-lights 902 talks

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

U.S. President Barack Obama on Friday (CNMI time) wrote to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to finally give the go on requested consultations between the CNMI and the White House.

Obama, in his May 19 letter, designates Esther Kia'aina, the assistant secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas, as his special representative for these talks pursuant to section 902 of the Covenant that established the CNMI's relationship with the U.S.

"I trust that this section 902 consultation will be a vehicle for addressing critical issues raised by the CNMI," Obama said in the letter.

In a letter last October and through follow-up letter in January, the CNMI had asked Obama to initiate discussion over two critical issues: the impending phase out of contract worker program in 2019 and the U.S. military's desire alter previously agreed upon land leases to conduct live-fire training and bombing activity in the CNMI.

The administration of Torres welcomed the news, hoping to continue an effort first initiated by the late Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

"We are very excited to finally begin the important process of creating our panel and formalizing our positions on the key issues we brought forth to President Obama months ago," said Gov. Ralph DLG Torres in a statement.

"This has been a priority of my administration since day one, and we will continue to work toward making sure the President addresses the legitimate concerns facing our Commonwealth today."

The 902 talks has been seen as an avenue for the CNMI and the federal government to come up with an agreement on a foreign worker program to replace the expiring contract worker program in 2019.

If agreement is reached, the worker program packaged will be pushed through U.S. Congress with Obama's backing.

Private and public officials cast a range of 15,000 to 35,000 workers needed in the Commonwealth.

Nearly two weeks ago, members of the Strategic Economic Development Council voted to recommend that Torres pursue a permanent program of some 18,000 workers to meet the project development needs of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

JUCUTAN

From Page 3

were not legitimate, Jucutan answered that he stole their personal information without them knowing.

Smith said Jucutan explained that he would be at the Army Reserve Center in Puerto Rico for the ASVAB test.

Smith said according to the defendant sometimes recruiters would not be able to make it to Saipan so they would call him and ask him if they could take care of it.

Smith said Jucutan stated that potential soldiers would come and take the ASVAB test and that he would be there with a blank form that the recruiter provided him.

In his statement, Jucutan said he would provide the potential soldiers the blank form, where they would write their personal information down.

After that, Jucutan said, he had the potential soldiers filled out another paper, what would be for him to put into the AR-RAP system.

Asked what he was doing at the Reserve Center, Jucutan said he would be there to act on behalf of the recruiter.

He said the recruiter would be in Guam and could not fly to Saipan.

"When the recruiter was here he would give me extra blank forms when I assisted them. I used those forms for the ASVAB," he said.

Jucutan agreed that taking the information from the recruiter was wrong, and that he was not entitled to any benefits received.

"At the time I thought it was OK to do such things, but I know it's wrong," he said.

Document & Packaging Brothers Inc. (Docupak) allegedly paid Jucutan $17,000 in compensation after nine of his nominees signed enlistment papers and shipped to boot camp.

Docupak was a contractor to administer AR-RAP.

Jucutan, however, stated that he did not plan with any recruiters or anyone else to steal people's information.

Jucutan also denied that the recruiter provided him any money for the people that he entered into Docupak.

Jucutan said an agent told him that he obtained a total of $17,000 for AR-RAP, but he only remembers receiving $8,000.

Jucutan said he nominated 38 into the AR-RAP system and that 15 of those provided him their personal information.

Jucutan said of those 38, he stole personal information from 23.

Jucutan agreed that he got paid money for nine recruits and out of those nine, four provided him with their personal information.

Jucutan said he stole personal information from five out of those nine.

Smith said five individuals were interviewed and denied providing their personal information to Jucutan.

Jucutan said he stole the personal information from those five.

Smith said he asked Jucutan why he was telling the truth now and that the defendant replied that he does not want to get into more trouble.

Smith said she did not threaten or coerce Jucutan to give statements.

Lorfing played brief video clips when Jucutan was interviewed.

Smith said Jucutan was paid for nine recruits, including five that he stole information from.

Smith said Jucutan stole information from 18 or 23 potential recruits or those that are not legitimate.

After Smith completed her testimony, Lorfing then called back FBI special agent Joseph McDoulett, who testified, among other things, as to the dates when Jucutan allegedly input the personal information to AR-RAP system and the payments he received through wires.

McDoulett said during the March 31 interview, Jucutan admitted stealing personal information from five people and four of which he was charged.

Lorfing then announced that the U.S. government rests.

Blackburn then moved to dismiss the charges. She argued that relied on the previous briefs that she filed plus the evidence that were presented in court.

Lorfing said in addition to the U.S. government's brief in opposing the motion to dismiss, they have proven that the U.S. government has been defrauded considering that Docupak was paid by the U.S. Army.

Blackburn said Docupak was the one paying Jucutan and not the U.S. government.

Senior Judge Alex R. Munson denied the motion. He said there was not only sufficient evidence to sustain a conviction but overwhelming evidence for the jury to decide as to all eight counts.

On Saturday, Blackburn started calling witnesses, including Naomi Taisacan, a former U.S. Army Reserve member.

On Lorfing's cross-examination, Taisacan said stealing people's personal information is wrong and illegal.

Taisacan said it appeared during interview by investigators that Jucutan looked intimidated.

Asked by Lorfing upon showing a video clip of the interview, Taisacan said it appeared that Jucutan was not coerced.

Taisacan said her opinion does not change that these charges are absurd.

Taisacan said she does not believe that Jucutan stole personal information as there are a lot of circumstances and probably the nominees just forgot about giving their personal information as these happened a long time ago.

Taisacan said during their high school years, it's almost common knowledge that recruiters get money.

Taisacan said she personally knows Jucutan as truthful, never a dishonest person, and a great person.

Taisacan said Jucutan is only human and people make mistakes.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

TORRES

From Page 1

Saipan Tribune.

"Since the beginning of this administration we have placed an emphasis on businesses pursuing U.S.-eligible workers as much as possible because the end of the transition period is only a few short years away and CW caps are required to decrease every year."

"Seeing the CNMI reach the CW-1 cap this year will result in two major things, one is that businesses with a unmet labor need will have to strengthen its pursuit of U.S.-eligible workers and through that effort we are able to better present to federal officials in Washington, D.C. that we do not have the available labor force to continue our economic development without a foreign worker program, it said.

The statement went on to say that labor is critical to the economy and that through greater emphasis on training and hiring U.S.-eligible workers that larger the CNMI economy can "weather the brunt of this year's labor limitations."

Still, the fact remains that "we need more workers for tomorrow's economy then presently available in the CNMI today," the administration added, noting that this would be an issue to be addressed in full with U.S. delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), business partners, and the CNMI Legislature.

NMC

From Page 1

hard and difficult it is they [my parents] worked to put us there. So when you hold your degree, hold it with pride because it is not just for you," he added. "You represent your parents, your family, and your children. Parents do everything for their children… When you take that degree stand tall and represent your community."

NMC External Relations director Frankie Elliptic served as the keynote speaker.

Among the many students beaming with pride, were Riya Rajkumar Nathrani and Nicole Ichihara Sablan, recipients of the prestigious Academic Excellence award.

Nathrani, who graduated with her A.A. in liberal arts with an emphasis in education and B.S. in education with an elementary education concentration, spoke of her family's move to the island from India when she was just 4 years old.

"They moved here to achieve the American dream," she said. "Today that dream becomes a reality."

"What is important is that we did not give up. We became stronger as a result of the challenges we face. It does not stop here…don't be afraid to fail. It is all part of the journey," she added.

Nathrani was also awarded the Student Leadership Award for her outstanding leadership skills. Among her many accomplishments, she will be traveling to Washington, D.C. next month to intern for the Hindu American Congressional and Advocacy program.

For her part, Nicole Sablan spoke about how this was the third valedictory address she delivered in her lifetime. Fighting back tears, she said, "I extend my heartfelt gratitude to those who have supported me. Thank you for making me work hard and pushing me past the breaking point."

She added, "This degree is a milestone in my life…I feel confident that every graduate here will go on to do amazing things."

Carey Nishizuki Demapan, graduating with her Associate of Science in natural resource management, is this year's recipient of the Excellence in Service award as well as 2nd honor. Demapan is the president of the college's Environmental Natural Resource Organization club.

"I want a better CNMI, and I want to give back to my community the best way I know how…helping conserve our land and natural resources for future generations," she said.

The record-breaking number of graduates concluded the commencement exercise with a rendition of Natasha Bedingfield's "Unwritten."

Last weekend's ceremony also included NMC's first batch of students to graduate with their bachelor's degree in business management. The graduation theme was "Behind you, all the memories. Before you, all your dreams."

CW

From Page 1

rejected, then the beneficiaries listed on that petition are not permitted to work beyond the validity period of the previously approved petition. Therefore, affected beneficiaries, including any CW-2 derivative family members of a CW-1 nonimmigrant, must depart the CNMI within 10 days after the CW-1 validity period has expired, unless they have some other authorization to remain under U.S. immigration law," USCIS said.

Due to the cap being reached, the CNMI Department of Labor said it hopes to not see another round of businesses being affected by shortage of workers like what happened to CW delays earlier this year.

"We are also cognizant that when the cap is reached for the current fiscal year then understandably so the next allocation will be the next cap to work with on petitions that are caught in the current fiscal year cap," CNMI Labor Secretary Edith DeLeon Guerrero said.

Since it is only less than five months until Oct. 1, 2016, USCIS can now accept CW petitions for the next fiscal year. While USCIS encourages CW-1 employers to file petitions months in advance of the requested employment start date, it also rejects a petition if it is filed more than six months in advance.

"USCIS is currently accepting CW-1 petitions requesting employment start dates on or after Oct. 1, 2016 (which apply to the FY 2017 CW-1 cap)," USCIS said.

To give way to workers needing CW classification visa and status, DeLeon Guerrero said they are encouraging employers to apply for H-2B visas for their qualified workers.

The H-2B non-agricultural temporary worker program allows U.S. employers to bring foreign nationals to the U.S. to fill temporary non-agricultural jobs.

"We are also encouraging employers to process, for example construction workers, under the H-2B visa so that CW-1 visas can be preserved for other business operations that are fitting under the CW-1 visa category," DeLeon said.

Currently, USCIS has also reached its cap for the H-2B cap for Fiscal Year 2016 which is at 66,000 per fiscal year; however, the CNMI is exempt from the H-1B and H-2B visa caps until 2019.

CHCC staff to help Guam on Zika surveillance for FestPac

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

A team of health officials from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. will be assisting Guam in its enhanced surveillance for Zika and other diseases as delegates and visitors from all over the Pacific are coming to the island for the 2016 Festival of the Pacific Arts.

According to state epidemiologist Dr. Paul White, they have a team to help Guam's Department of Public Health and Social Services.

"We're sending a very big team to Guam Public Health," White told *Saipan Tribune*, "And we'll be there for the duration to work with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the U.S. Centers on Disease Control and Prevention on an enhancement surveillance system that Guam put in place."

White said they will have a daily collection of syndromic data which is a "picture of signs and symptoms that people might present with for some diseases."

"We'll be doing it daily for two weeks," White said.

White said sending a team will be beneficial not only for Guam but for the CNMI as well as it will "give us an insight to what they're doing and what risks they're seeing."

According to White, Guam has been doing a lot of vector control prior to the arrival of the delegates and visitors for FestPac which officially opened yesterday.

Some of the countries that are in the Pacific and among those who will be participating has had a history of zika, most of which from the South Pacific, White said.

The World Health Organization currently lists countries with active Zika cases in the Pacific, which includes American Samoa, Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and Tonga.

"There is obviously a potential, just a potential, that someone travelling from those islands will take it with them," White said.

White said they also met with the CNMI delegation for FestPac before they left for Guam for health reminders. They also put up informational flyers at the airports.

"We have produced a flyer that outlines six key messages that is going on the airport here and on Rota and we'll go out to every outbound flight until the end of FestPac," White said.

The key messages include proper washing of hands, sneeze and cough etiquette, sun-smart tips, fighting the bite, safe sex, and food handling and safety tips.

Although a recent vector survey in the CNMI showed that there are no *Aedes Aegypti*—the main vector or species responsible for the transmission of zika, dengue, and chikungunya viruses—on all three inhabited islands, White said it still doesn't eliminate the risk of transmission.

"This information doesn't reduce the risk of someone coming in, but it reduces the risk of transmission if it occurs, which is encouraging. But reducing it doesn't mean it's eliminated," White said.

White said the information was "encouraging" and will be helpful to understand how transmission patters will be once an active case gets introduced to the island.

While the survey showed that most of the water samples taken from water containers or stagnant water in the environment showed that there were mosquito species, it showed that it was mostly *Aedes Albopictus* that is present in the CNMI—species that mainly feeds on and prefers animals than humans.

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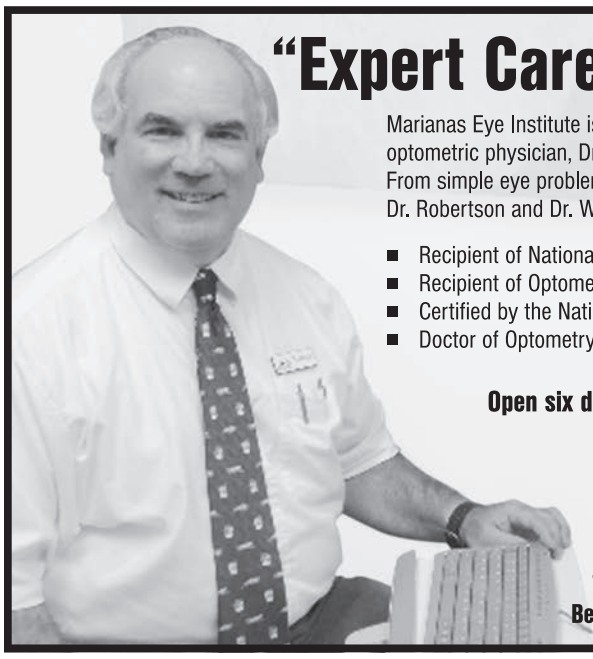
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Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road, San Jose Village (670) 235-6032

Ex-convict in home invasion case gets 71 months in jail

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja has slapped a sentence of five years and 11 months imprisonment against Fermin Manuel Castro, an ex-convict who caused injuries to a woman he tried to rob her at her apartment unit in Garapan.

Naraja sentenced the 28-year-old Castro to 10 years in prison, all suspended except for five years, for attempted robbery.

For violating the terms and conditions of his probation in his previous criminal conviction, Castro was ordered to spend 11 months in jail of the suspended sentence.

The defendant was given credit for 391 days of time served. He will be released from the Department of Corrections no later than 4pm on March 4, 2021.

After completing the prison term, Castro will be placed on supervised probation for five years. He was ordered to pay restitution to the victim in the amount of $1,067.07 for her medical bills.

Castro was ordered to pay $500 in probation fee and $100 in court assessment fee.

For the entirety of the probationary period, the defendant is prohibited from having direct or indirect contact with the victim and her family.

Castro is prohibited from possessing or consuming any alcoholic beverages or controlled substances during the probationary period.

A review hearing will be held on May 11, 2021.

For the home invasion case, the Office of the Attorney General charged Castro with attempted robbery, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Castro and counsel, Samuel I. Mok, signed a plea deal with the government represented by assistant attorney general Chester Hinds.

Castro pleaded guilty to attempted robbery. As part of the plea deal, Hinds moved to dismiss the remaining charges. Naraja granted the motion.

The defendant also admitted to violating the terms and conditions of his probation in the 2013 criminal conviction.

In November 2013, Castro pleaded guilty to assault and battery for domestic violence. In this case he has a remaining 11 months of suspended sentence.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Castro attempted to rob the woman by the use of force on April 14, 2015.

The victim reportedly sustained several injuries when Castro broke into her apartment unit in southern Garapan, threatened to rape her, and punched and slashed her body with a knife during the attempted robbery.

Castro was arrested after the victim identified him as her former neighbor.

When a police officer arrived, he observed the victim had a black eye, swollen left eye, swollen forehead and left head, scraped marks and cut on the right shoulder and elbow.

Citing Castro's criminal history, then-associate judge David A. Wiseman said the court considers Castro as a danger to the community and a menace to society.

CLICK-IT OR TICKET
National Seat Belt Enforcement Mobilization
May 23 - June 05, 2016
CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT
In real life you don't get a second chance.
Car Seat Recommendations for Children
Select a car seat based on your child's age and size, and choose a seat that fits in your vehicle and use it every time.
Always refer to your specific car seat manufacturer's instructions; read the vehicle owner's manual on how to install the car seat using the seat belt or LATCH system; and check height and weight limits.
To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible, as long as the child fits within the manufacturer's height and weight requirements.
Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.
BIRTH 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
AGE (years)
Keep your child in the back seat at least through age 12.
REAR-FACING CAR SEAT
Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats: Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing. Convertible and 3-in-1 car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.
FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT
Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward-facing car seat with a harness.
BOOSTER SEAT
Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward-facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.
SEATBELT
Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snug across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.
DESCRIPTION (RESTRAINT TYPE)
A REAR-FACING CAR SEAT is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and in a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child's fragile neck and spinal cord.
A FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT has a harness and tether that limits your child's forward movement during a crash.
A BOOSTER SEAT positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger parts of your child's body.
A SEAT BELT should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.
Anchor. Tether. LATCH The next generation of child safety.
CNMI Department of Public Safety. For more information call:
SAIPAN 664-9001/9125 | TINIAN 433-9222/2041 | ROTA 532-9433/9530
www.dps.gov.mp
DEPARTMENT PUBLIC SAFETY
NHTSA
www.nhtsa.gov
The Department of Public Safety is an equal opportunity provider and employer

Tourist allegedly yields 39 credit/debit cards belonging to others

CNMI Customs inspectors arrested a tourist who was allegedly found in possession of 39 credit/debit cards issued to other Chinese nationals upon arrival at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport last week.

Binbin Zhang, 27, was arrested on charges of attempt and misuse of credit cards and issuance of bad checks, and possession of forged writing or forgery device.

At a hearing on Friday, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a $30,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for May 25 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Zhang. Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley appeared for the government. The court appointed a translator for the defendant.

CNMI Customs inspector I Michael N. Pangelinan stated in his report that last Sunday, May 15, at 3:05am, Zhang and his alleged girlfriend Baoping Li, arrived at the airport.

Pangelinan said during the routine inspection, two Customs inspectors found Zhang in possession of 39 commercial cards concealed in a card organizer.

The inspectors discovered that most of the credit cards were registered to other Chinese nationals, while others have no names.

Pangelinan said seized were credit cards and debit cards from multiple banks, company specific-shopping cards, and other cards that appear to be intended to make purchases.

Pangelinan said during his interview, Zhang said he planned to stay on Saipan for four days and set to depart last Thursday.

Zhang claimed to have authorization to possess each card for the purpose of shopping for friends.

Pangelinan said upon further investigation, he learned that Zhang did not have any documentation providing his authorization to use the cards.

The girlfriend denied having knowledge of the cards and the owners of the cards.

Pangelinan said he contacted the fraud departments of the various banks that issued the cards and is awaiting to hear back from the banks. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Northern Marianas Trades Institute
Logo & Slogan Contest
Win up to $150 per category.
In Celebration of Trades Month
April 2016
We are seeking your help
in designing a logo and
a slogan to go with it.
Incorporate the Chamorro & Carolinian
Heritage and Culture
As well as The Trades offered at NMTI
For more information, please contact:
Norisa Camacho or Ross Manglona at
(670) 235-6684
or visit our Facebook Page #Nmti Cnmi.
Entries must be submitted to the NMTI Office
in Lower Base from Monday thru Friday 8-5:00pm
before Friday, May 31, 2016 at 5:00pm.
Winners will be announced on Monday, June 6, 2016.

THE CNMI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

CLASS OF 2016 PROMOTION & GRADUATION

Congratulations CLASS OF 2016

Come and celebrate with us!

CHACHA OCEANVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL
MAY 25 • 9:00 A.M. • SCHOOL CAFETORIUM

SAN ANTONIO MIDDLE SCHOOL
MAY 25 • 11:00 A.M. • CHARLEY'S CABARET (PIC)

TANAPAG MIDDLE SCHOOL
MAY 26 • 9:00 A.M. • AQUA RESORT

DR. RITA H. INOS JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL
MAY 27 • 9:00 A.M. • RHI CAFETORIUM

RHI HIGH SCHOOL
MAY 27 • 5:00 P.M. • RHI STAGE

KAGMAN HIGH SCHOOL
MAY 31 • 4:00 P.M. • AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK

HOPWOOD JR. HIGH SCHOOL
JUNE 1 • 9:00 A.M. • HJHS STAGE

SAIPAN SOUTHERN HIGH SCHOOL
JUNE 1 • 4:30 P.M. • SSHS COURTYARD

DANDAN MIDDLE SCHOOL
JUNE 2 • 9:00 A.M. • WORLD RESORT

MARIANAS HIGH SCHOOL
JUNE 2 • 5:00 P.M. • MHS SCHOOL CAMPUS

TINIAN JR. HIGH SCHOOL
JUNE 3 • 10:00 A.M. • TJSH CAFETORIUM

TINIAN HIGH SCHOOL
JUNE 3 • 4:00 P.M. • KAMMER BEACH PARK

STUDENTS FIRST
ACCOUNTABILITY · RESPONSIBILITY · TRANSPARENCY

CNMI SBDC offers free business seminars on Saipan

The Department of Commerce's CNMI Small Business Development Center, through the Small Business Administration, will be offering free business seminars "Export 101-Exporting your product from CNMI to China" from 3:30pm to 5:30pm on Monday, May 23, and "Funding Your Business through a SBA Loan" from 9am to 10am on Wednesday, May 25, at the Northern Marianas College (Room D1).

Interested in exporting your product from CNMI? Already exporting your product and looking to expand into new markets? Then you don't want to miss this opportunity to hear from the experts. Andrea Shen, from the United States Consulate General in Shenyang, China, will discuss the rules and regulations on exporting your food/beverage products to China, how to get your product ready for export, and the resources available to help you find qualified international buyers. About 95 percent of your potential customers are located overseas—come and find out how to connect and communicate effectively with this vast potential! This seminar is brought to you by the Guam Visitors Bureau, Northern Marianas College and the CNMI SBDC with the support of the Commonwealth Development Authority, CNMI Department of Commerce, U.S. Commercial Service, Hawaii Pacific District Export Council, Bridge Investment Group, and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Ken Lujan, Guam SBA Branch manager, will present on starting up or expanding your business to recovering from disasters, SBA loan programs are available to help your business succeed. You can explore various types of loans that may be available at the upcoming seminar. This seminar is brought to you by the CNMI SBDC and the Northern Marianas College with the support of the Commonwealth Development Authority, CNMI Department of Commerce, and the Let's MOVE! Marianas Alliance.

Deadline to pre-register is one business day before seminar at 12pm. Seating is limited so advanced registration is required (this is on a first come, first serve basis). Walk-ins are allowed and granted on space availability.

For more information about registering for these seminars, please contact Orrin Pharmin at orrin@pacificsbdc.com or the CNMI SBDC Office in Department of Commerce at (670) 664-3018. ***(PR)***

Peter A. Cruz
Address: P.O. Box 7446 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 670.789.2391

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Cruz, Peter A. Jr. Petitioner,	)	FCD-DI CA-16-0175
vs.	)	**SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**
Cruz, Michelle C. Respondent	)	

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 7746 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filling your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court of this Court at P.O. Box 500307, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 28th day of April, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Glenn Eugene Fryer
& Christina Guerrero Fryer
PSC 704 Box 3435
APO, AP 96338-0015
Tel. No. 570-865-4221

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Adoption of:	)	FCD-AD-CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0206
Franklin Xavier Guerrero Fryer Kialani Faith Guerrero Fryer Minor Children	)	**NOTICE OF HEARING**
By: Glenn Eugene Fryer Christina Guerrero Fryer Petitioners	)	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 31, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 20th day of May, 2016.

Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC.
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL.: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In re Estate of GEORGE A. MANGLONA, Deceased,	:	CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-1061

SIXTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVE that, pursuant to an order issued by the Court in this matter on March 11, 2009, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of the Estate of George A. Manglona in and to the following property:

1. Lot 002 T 22. The Estate owns this lot, which contains an area of 1,448 square meters more or less, in fee simple. Title is subject to outstanding mortgages, the balances due on which are negotiable.

2. Lot. 008 T 85. This lot contains an area of 901 square meters. The Estate owns a leasehold interest in the lot, which expires on July 21, 2047. No further rent is due.

Both of these properties are situated in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands. All sales are subject to court approval.

Preliminary title reports are available for inspection at the office of the undersigned, by appointment only.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, June 10, 2016, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the law offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Term and Conditions of Sales. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 26th day of April, 2016:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F-0122
Attorney for Administator

VICENTE T. SALAS, ESQ.
Law Office Of Vicente T. Salas
P.O. Box 501309, San Jose
2nd Floor, MIC Building
SAIPAN, MP 96950-1309
Telephone No. (670) 234-7455
Telecopier No. (670) 234-7256

Attorney for: Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, -vs- VINCENT A. MANGLONA, BENITA A. MANGLONA, V.B. MANGLONA ENTERPRISES, TONGA GARDENS, PASEO DRIVE INCORPORATED, GUAM ISLA LP GAS AND APPLIANCE and MOBIL OIL MICRONESIA, INC. Defendants.	]	CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0194-CV **NOTICE OF AUCTION**

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, CNMI Marshal, or any other person authorized by law hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Vincent A. Manglona and Benita A. Manglona in the following described, real properties situated in Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Fee simple title to:

Tract No. 22102, Rota, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2048/77 the original of which was registered 23 APR 79 as Document No. 8162 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Tract No 22214, Rota, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3017/87 the original of which was registered 28 FEB 89 as Document No. 89-0624 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 053 R 01, Rota, containing an area of 535 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 053 R 00 the original of which was registered 19 JAN 94 as Document No. 94-0176 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 001 R 07, Rota, containing an area of 836 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R 00 the original of which was registered 21 NOV 71 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Leasehold Interest to:

Lot No. 017 R 01, Rota, containing an area of 929 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 017 R 00 the original of which was recorded 29 JUL 87 as Document No. 87-2715 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Lot No. 044 R 04, Rota, containing an area of 6,626 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 044 R 00 the original of which was registered 28 APR 77 as Document No. 6031 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Lot No. 044 R 12, Rota, containing an area of 3,197 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 044 R 00 the original of which was registered 28 APR 77 as Document No. 6031 at Land Registry, Saipan.

Lot No. 001 R 25, Rota, containing an area of 735 square meters, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 R 00 the original of which was registered 12 NOV 71 as Document No. 1288 at Land Registry, Saipan.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m. on Friday May 27, 2016,** subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. **Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**

2. Reserve. The auction shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
   a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.

4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235 7147; or to Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234 7256.

5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.

6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Vincent A. Manglona and Benita A. Manglona in the property and any improvements thereon are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property or its title will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 04 day of May, 2016.

/s/ ROBERT A. GUERRERO, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW-16-IFB-012

Repair and Renovation of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Building N-2, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair and Renovation of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Building N-2, Navy Hill**, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **May 09, 2016** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **May 25, 2016 , 9:00 a.m. local time** at Project Site, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **May 27, 2016** to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW-16-IFB-012"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 17, 2016.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, June 17, 2016**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 17, 2016** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **June 29, 2016.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascencion Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, July 01, 2016.** However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on June 17, 2016.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245.** The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Ninety (90) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **One Hundred (US$100.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

Air Force, Navy to conduct training at FDM, W-517

ASAN, Guam—The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- May 23, 11am-5pm
- May 24, 11am-7pm
- May 25, 10am-4pm
- May 26, 10am-7pm

The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 May 25 from noon to 10pm.

The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. ***(PR)***

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney.for Petitioner: Wilfred P. Kaipat

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIAN AS ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: **FERMINA RABAULIMAN KAIPAT aka FILIMENIA RABAULIMAN KAIPAT/ FELOMENIA RABAULIMAN,** **Decedent.**	Civil Action No. 16- 0060-CV **NOTICE OF INITIAL HEARING ON VERIFIED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR** **And** **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE FERMINA RABAULIMAN KAIPAT OR OF HER ESTATE .

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Wilfred Pangalinan Kaipat, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Fermina Rabauliman Kaipat, Deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950. The hearing on the Petition by Wilfred P. Kaipat, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on May 31, 2016 at 1:30 PM , at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors or entities having claims against the Decedent or her estate are hereby required by law to file their claims wi th the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of the first publication, or the claim(s) wi ll be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to Petitioner's counsel, at the address herein-above indicated .

Dated this 12th day of April, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Deputy Clerk of Court

Habitual offender with mental age of 10 gets 5-year jail term

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has expressed concern that there appears to be no meaningful way to provide mental health care to defendants with mental illness and/or disability in the CNMI criminal justice system.

At a change of plea hearing on Tuesday afternoon, Camacho said he is faced with putting in prison Lucas Taitano Manglona Jr., a 38-year-old mentally ill person with the mental age of a 10-year-old boy, without the proper mental health professionals or a hospital that releases a patient with a history of violence.

Manglona, a habitual offender, pleaded guilty to burglary for breaking into a house of a couple in San Vicente and stealing a couple's money.

Camacho sentenced Manglona to five years imprisonment.

Manglona was given credit for time served since July 26, 2015.

Camacho said the last two years of the five-year sentence is suspended and may be imposed in whole or in part for violation of law or Office of the Adult Probation rules.

After completing the prison term, Manglona will be placed on probation for three years.

Manglona was ordered to perform 40 hours of community work service, pay a $100 fine, $25 in court costs, and $100 in probation fee for each year he is on probation.

Manglona was ordered to pay $111 in restitution to the victims. He was prohibited from having direct or indirect contact with the victims and stay away from their house.

Manglona was required to complete any recommended counseling from the Community Guidance Center, if these services are available in the community.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Manglona burglarized the house of a couple in San Vicente and stole a purse for money to buy cigarettes on June 21, 2015.

On Feb. 23, 2016, Dr. Martin Blinder, a Hawaii-based psychiatrist, conducted a mental evaluation on Manglona in part because the defendant has been diagnosed with schizophrenia since at a very young age.

» Judge: No meaningful way to provide mental health care to defendants with mental illness in CNMI

Camacho said Blinder's psychiatric diagnosis showed that the defendant indeed suffers from schizophrenia and that he is not receiving medication that will address the mental illness.

When Manglona was 14 years old, he reportedly suffered serious head injuries in an auto accident.

Camacho said Blinder's test and evaluation showed that even though Manglona is 38 years old, his mental age is that of a 10-year-old.

The judge said there is no medication or treatment that will cure Manglona and in effect he will be stuck for the rest of his life at the mental age of a 10-year-old.

The Office of the Attorney General did not contest Binder's expert findings.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for Manglona, stated that it is unjust to imprison the defendant when the Commonwealth Health Center has the facilities to treat his mental illness, and to care for the mentally ill, but has made a decision not to hire staff necessary to house people like Manglona.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas stated that the government recognizes that the defendant has a psychological condition and an intellectual disability.

At the sentencing hearing on Wednesday, Camacho inquired if the Department of Corrections is equipped to handle defendants with mental illness and/or disability.

Meyer stated that DOC does not have the mental health personnel (doctors) to administer the proper medications, counseling, and other services.

Meyer said CHC will not take any mental patients who have violent behaviors and that CHC simply releases mental health patients if they become violent.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Rudy "R.J." Seman Kaipat Jr. May God continue to bless you and many more birthdays to come. We love you bulalalalal!

CONGRATULATIONS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to our Son Zion Stone on your 1st holy communion last Sunday. Wish we could be there in a heartbeat! We love and miss you. Also congratulations to Phoenix, Rosalyn, and Nisha on your holy communion. God bless!

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
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PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF TWO (2) UNITS SPECIALIZED VEHICLES FOR PORTS POLICE PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-004-16

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed bids for the procurement and delivery of two (2) units specialized vehicles for its Ports Police Department.

The bid package consisting of instructions and other considerations will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning May 10th, 2016.

Bids submission deadline is May 23rd, 2016 at 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME.

All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Acting Executive Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

US arms sales to Libya and Nigeria are wrong

Announcements of American government willingness to sell arms to two questionable clients—one of three governments claiming legitimacy in war-torn Libya and the corrupt and incompetent military of Nigeria—raise serious questions about what is going on in Washington in the final months of President Barack Obama's administration.

Secretary of State John Kerry said Monday that the United States was willing to provide arms to one of the three governments claiming power in Libya. Libya has fallen into chaos since a passel of rebels, the United States, European ex-colonial powers France, Italy and the United Kingdom, and a few Middle Eastern states overthrew Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi in 2011. He had been in power since 1969.

At present in Libya there are three governments. One is based in Tobruk in the east of the country. It is dominated by Gen. Khalifa Haftar, an ex-CIA asset whose current relationship with the United States is not clear. A second government is based in Tripoli, the former capital. A third, recently baptized and currently protected by the international community, was brought to Tripoli and installed in hypothetical power.

It is this third government that Washington has now indicated its willingness to arm, ostensibly to provide it means to exercise authority over the other two putative governments, including disarming or incorporating them and the numerous other armed militias operating in Libya.

To provide arms to this regime is simply to inject more arms into an already weapons-rich environment. Providing it arms and the supply and training components that inevitably go with such sales is also to put money into the hands of U.S. arms producers and the contractors who go with the weapons concerned.

The second, perhaps even more dubious proposed sales are of 12 A-29 Super Tucano attack aircraft, manufactured by Sierra Nevada Corp. of Florida to Nigeria. The ostensible purpose of this sale is to help Nigeria fight Boko Haram, which has operated for several years in the northeast of Nigeria. Boko Haram is certainly bad news. Its banner is one of Islamic extremism. Its most noteworthy crime was the kidnapping of some 276 Nigerian girls from a school in Chibok in 2014. It claims adherence to the Islamic State, although it is not clear that Boko Haram and the leadership of the IS are even pen pals and share more than a loose common theology.

Nigeria is, and has been for years, one of the most corrupt states on Earth. What its governments have been particularly adept at is taking the country's very substantial oil wealth and not using it to meet the still basically poor country's needs. It has been doing marginally better under a new president, an ex-general, Muhammadu Buhari, a U.S. Army War College graduate elected in reasonably democratic elections in 2015. Buhari has been saying some of the right things, but has yet to make any profound changes in how Nigeria operates. Why the United States should enter into an arms relationship with Nigeria on the basis of a conflict that basically has nothing to

See ARMS on Page 11

Liu Shu Mei

"You're the guy who writes on China," is a frequent comment I get from folks I meet. A few readers came out after I suggested that I count readers of the column on one hand. I knew for sure three readers who followed our musing, and a dear friend who runs an educational institution wrote back to say that I might consider him the fourth!

I found out that there are actually four Franks who follow our musing, one who leaves a few copies of his newsweekly when he thinks it might enlighten me to read an article; another, a former professor, told me that I just write without much consideration for clarity on the poor readers who might be lost on the foreign words and acronyms I fling about. Good point. I did mention that my style is not to offer expert opinion but to invite dialogue. Of course, I receive diatribes, instead!

A third Frank is a Carolinian gentleman I bumped into by the Quartermaster Road's tank where I planted a tree longtime ago. I wanted to know the name of the tree I planted on the ground and sought his assistance since he seemed to be regarded as knowledgeable on such matters. He informed me that it was a variety brought around by the MVA.

(That's when he commented that I looked familiar and made the connection. He follows our laptop hack in his retired years.)

The fourth Frank is younger, but I shall spare the reader the colorful terms he uses to respond to my reflections.

Liu Shu Mei, like our previous Liu Xiaopeng, is a contrived name, a composite for the many "Frances" in the Chinese community who had been drawn into the "you're the guy who writes on China" circle. One remembered me when I assisted Chinese workers from a garment factory while the industry was closing out.

Another read my accounts on the China rail rides I took, from northeast, Manchuria (Dong Bei) where I resided, to Manzhouli near the Russian border, to the far southwest of Sichuan by the Himalayas to Ya-an and learning Liuliude in Kangding up the hills, then the eastern north-south route from Hong Kong to Beijing via Wuhan, and Shanghai to Guillin, and finally, the impressive Maglev out of Shanghai. She found my materials worth the read.

An old acquaintance at WSR, in the process of starting an English school for Chinese workers, reminded me why the Liu Shu Mei's of the CNMI figured so prominently in my existence.

One came with a three-year contract without being told that the CNMI recognized only one-year terms. She was let go after working for three months without any means to recouped the investment to come to the islands from the distant province of Sichuan. The Oleai Resource Center I headed could not assist enough to get her indebtedness squared. She turned on a red light in her room.

Then there was another who found it lucrative to pass on meta-amphetamine brought in through innocent workers' luggage (Might one guess where the undeclared cash at the airport come from?). Evading the arm of the law, she managed to keep her market on Saipan, moved to Tinian, until she encroached into someone's territory and found herself a felon in the CNMI's tribunal system.

Her passport expired while incarcerated and the penal system did not know how to facilitate her acquisition of a new one, nor have her legally accommodated without over-serving the terms of her sentence. Floundering in the penal system's indifference, or, incompetence, she caught the attention of one of our crusading lawyers. He got her out of jail and I got her home to China.

A girl from the poor section of Jilin in Manchuria entered the profession of lady of the night at a very early age but she was a bit on the rotund side but when she came to the CNMI where the demand was high and not too particular of shape and size, she found a calling.

Unfortunately, in two attempts to gain permanent residency, through a fake marriage, at first, that was found out, then was truly married to a sickly person who later died, her immigration papers flounder. Now, keeping to the strait and narrow, she hangs out with another islander hoping that the green card will finally come around.

My Liu Shu Mei was a student nurse in a group I sat with on a China plane to Saipan, came to learn her English to take the NCLEX exam as a nurse. She passed the test and we lived

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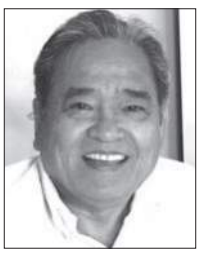
By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

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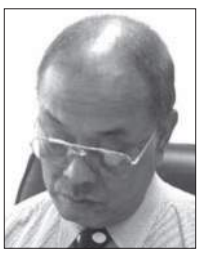
Must probe abusive pattern

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune*.*

As a House member, Biktot Hokog spearheaded a loan of $500,000 for the Rota Casino Commission. Have these funds been returned? Is the commission up and running or is Rota's casino industry now in operation? OPA must do an ocular review how these funds were spent! The taxpayers deserve full accounting.

Didn't Hokog vote for the Saipan casino that literally paralyzed the Rota casino? Is this the kind of leadership Rota has who kills impending opportunities for his people?

Coincidently, Hokog has begun orchestrating a path to give his consultant Robert Toelkes the $160 million RO project. Gee! There seems an established pattern here in Hokog's role. Either this guy has no respect for the laws of the land and quickly takes his authoritarian rule in a position he never earned anyway or is ignorant of laws governing disposition of public funds.

Evidently, was there an RFP issued to buy the MV *Luta*? Why were procurement regulations skipped in this instance? Isn't this an authoritarian disposition? So what's the good of NMI procurement regulations? OPA and the AG must sink its teeth on this issue too other than constitutional violation of laws!

Responsibility: Friends, as difficult as it may be walking to the mound in search of justice in order to protect the innocent, we should join hands with courage to do so. It's the only way to build and strengthen our democratic institutions. It's the only way to jolt the attention of public officials of the equal application of laws.

They too must answer to any and all violations of law including following the constitutional mandate that all public funds are first appropriated by the NMI Legislature. Such is our individual and collective responsibility. Otherwise, our democratic government turns into a dictatorship where the powerful survive, the weak left to fend for themselves. We must be vigilant protecting the interest of our people especially the innocent.

Health program enriches rich

Wealthy and clever doctors have exploited Obamacare's Affordable Care Act (ACA) to rake-in millions of dollars annually. To begin with the ACA is designed for the poor. The doctors saw legal loot.

So they practice medicine some 40 or more miles from home traveling to poorer communities taking care of patients who qualify for ACA. Even their trips to and from the clinic are paid for under the program. Each patient care translates to about a million dollars over a period of time. It's all done at the expense of the poor!

From the get-go, Obamacare was riddled with lies like, "If you like your doctor…" Recently, more of the large health insurance firms have pulled out because of huge losses. The slow disintegration raised private health premiums displacing more citizens rather than providing "affordable" healthcare services. Even some retirees had to abandon their health insurance here and moved to Medicaid. What happens when Obamacare ends next year?

Moreover, a federal court recently ruled that funds for Obamacare are illegal. It basically returned the power of the purse to the US Congress. Obama can't don dual roles as commander-in-chief and legislator at the same time.

There are certain aspects of Obamacare that I see as a plus like accommodating patients with what's known as "pre-existing" conditions. In other words, you can't be denied health insurance because you're diabetic or have had heart bypass or kidney failure. There are other beneficial aspects that were excluded from us only half-cocked scientist who promoted it understood or did they? Seesuzzzz!

There's nothing illegal how wealthy doctors gamed the system. But I'm stunned how Obamacare failed to guard against exploitation on the back of taxpayers many of whom are struggling to find affordable healthcare services too.

Relationship: The NMI is a permanent part of the US of A, subject to applicable provisions of the U.S. Constitution, treatise and laws of the U.S. A controversial issue—right to bear arms—emerged and ruled applicable here by the federal court.

Indeed, we may have all the cultural arguments against it but it's the rights of US Citizens we can't change via the legislature. There's the supremacy of laws. The right to bear arms is a part of the U.S. Constitution (Bill of Rights) that is supreme over local laws.

Facts vs. Hearsay: Overheard Marianas Agupa Tinian Correspondent Jeff Borja present his opinion on the lawsuit I filed versus the NMI on the MV *Luta* funds last Saturday. Wasn't this supposed to be a straight news item, sir?

Interesting his use of "source" on the issue. Source? Would that be Jeff looking into the mirror declaring, "According to my source?" How convenient but completely irresponsible the use of hearsay presented as if a set of facts.

The $400K isn't Rota's per your assertion but part of what's known in budgeting as "NMI Resources". Until it is appropriated by the legislature for a specific purpose it remains under "NMI Resources". Otherwise, common sense dictates that the funds won't be coming from the central government but the Rota municipality as locally generated revenue. But it's furthest from the truth, right?

The warp report happens when correspondents lack journalistic discipline warranting verification of information. It's a fatal mistake done by novices that fails journalistic standard. Learn to separate fact from fiction "in search of the truth!" You're entitled to your opinion but not your warp conjecture!

Fruit Bat: Interesting that Da Big Boys get to eat fruit bat (fanihe) even when it's not in season. The delicacy is eaten on Rota when Da Big Boys make visits or eat on island when the next illegal shipment makes it safely to shore. Wow!

It's a scheme that allegedly involves the use of "government issue guns" to shoot down fruit bats so Da Big Boys could have festive dinner, illegally. Goes to show that some could go to jail while others are conveniently ignored so the bosses could eat illegal delicacies! Did someone say corruption?

ARMS

From Page 10

do with America is hard to understand.

Both the Libya and Nigeria proposed arms sales should not be pursued further. One has to wonder whether Washington politicians are not courting large contributions from America's arms industry in this campaign year.

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LIU

From Page 10

happily ever after, at least, for five years. Thirty-seven years of difference was too wide a gap to bridge, but it's still one story worth the telling, maybe another time.

Liu is a common last name in China and Shu Mei is virtuous, charming girl's name, never mind that mei is the same word for the dirty coal that China utilizes to energize the manufacture of inexpensive consumer goods for the West. Using loose quality control, manufacturers now go elsewhere but it polluted the air and water in the process.

A colleague called me Liu Jimu (Jaime Liu), my spouse is a Liu. I was Wang Zhimu (James Vee) at the Shenyang Aerospace U. In the West, the wife takes the husband's name. The reverse is poetic justice. My toast to Wang and Liu clans. Ganbei!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bubble economy

Have you noticed the new cars all over Saipan? And the construction projects all over the place? What's going on? Is our economy finally on the rebound? According to the experts up on the Hill, it is. Wow, our casino deal with Best Sunshine is really paying off, huh? Or is there something we do not yet know, maybe do not want to know maybe even know but would prefer to ignore? Are we looking at an economy that could potentially burst in the near future?

Our economy is almost totally dependent on the world outside the CNMI. We have no choice, we are an island chain physically isolated from the world and are therefore forced to import almost everything from our consumer goods to the workforce required for just about everything. Take a look at a couple of factors, which play critical roles in our survival:

Our economy is hanging by a thread we call taxation. This is the only viable way of generating revenue as not too many countries, governments or companies are simply too willing to give us the millions we need to operate the commonwealth in its entirety. There are two main sources of money, our tourism, and the islands' businesses, which cater to that industry plus the investors, which pump in dollars into the private sector. Both are subject to conditions we cannot control, world politics, the financial markets as well as policies in the countries we connect with for most everything.

For example, if the U.S., China, and Russia continue their shows of force, there can be an incident that can terminate the CNMI-visa waiver program, which will transform our airport, hotels, shopping centers, and roads into movie theater silence.

Our workforce. We knew we had a problem way back leading up to the garment industry build-up. Save for the surrounding waters and the clean air, we lack most resources critical for our economy. Our workforce consists of two groups, local and imported. The locals prefer a government job, one simply needs to be connected by family name or ancestry or politically. The qualification requirements are minimal and the benefits simply awesome.

The imported labor force is subject to policies, rules and regulations, which dictate approval and conformity. They need to be qualified with the minimum education and/or work experience and are restricted to term limitations for their time in the CNMI. And the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, which the U.S. government imposed without our concurrence is the rope and the fire that keeps us at the mercy of the U.S., our political partner. The existing CW program is terminal and the H2 visa category is cost prohibitive for most companies and does not include all the job classifications we require for the CNMI. Not only that, DHS is a federal agency that bends and complies with wishes of ever-changing politicians in Washington. We simply are pawns in a world we have no control over. Just ask our non-voting Washington, D.C. delegate on his accomplishments to head off our impending disasters.

So, are we witnessing an economic boom or is it but a bubble fixing to burst in a couple of years? Ask the major investors what their plans are should the threats to our survival become reality. Maybe then, just maybe and without any guarantee, we may wake up. Good luck!

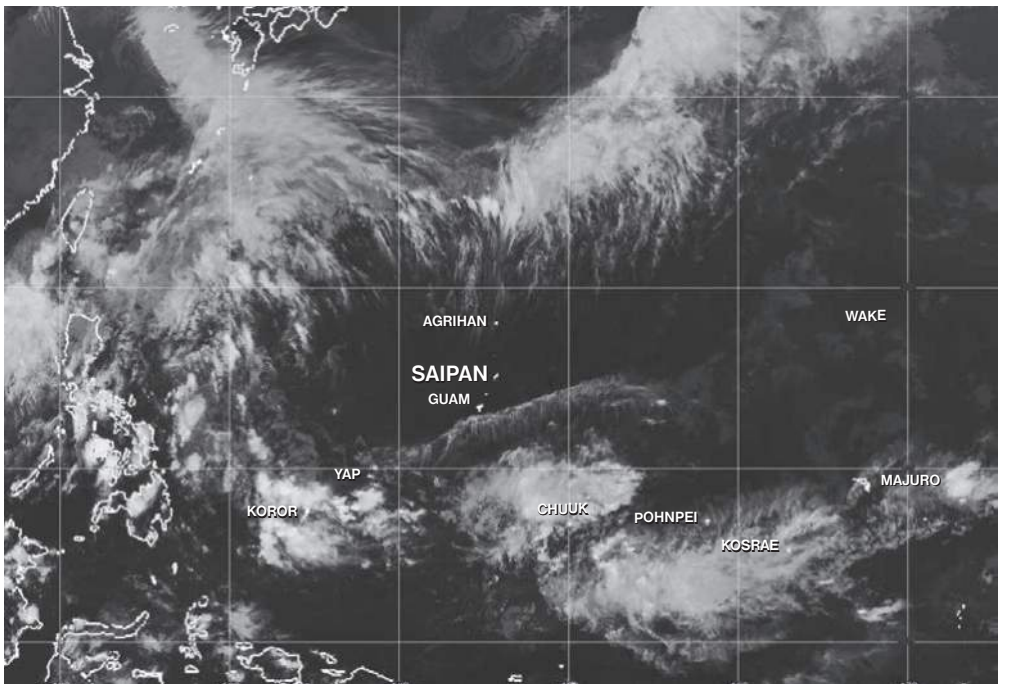
Rudy M. Sablan
Garapan

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:37 PM, SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Converging surface winds south of a stationary front near Iwo To island are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of a line from 24N130E to 24N149E. Converging trade winds are coupling with divergent winds aloft to trigger scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms northwest of Koror within 70 miles of a line from 11N130E to 8N133E and also over Palau between 4N and 9N from 133E to 140E. Similar conditions are also seen west of Weno in Chuuk state between 6N and 10N from 144E to 151E. Trade-wind disturbances are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Pohnpei and southwest of Kosrae within 125 miles of a line from 2N149E to 4N162E and also northeast of Majuro within 55 miles of a line from 10N174E to 8N175E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲91	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲59	▼55
Beijing	Cloudy	▲74	▼53
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼77
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲89	▼72
London	Showers	▲67	▼46
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲72	▼55
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲60	▼49
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼73
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼57
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼66
Paris	Showers	▲63	▼47
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲78	▼62
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼56
Salem	Rain	▲61	▼50
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼51
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲85	▼63
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼64
Washington, DC	Showers	▲58	▼53

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:46 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
8:43 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:56 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.2 Feet
10:46 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:41 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:49 PM	6:43 AM
Tuesday	8:40 PM	7:31 AM
Wednesday	9:30 PM	8:21 AM
Thursday	10:19 PM	9:13 AM
Friday	11:07 PM	10:06 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 16-026

Opening Date: Thursday, May 19, 2016
Closing Date: Wednesday, June 01, 2016

Maintenance Worker

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Management Analyst or designee. Performs routine preventative and general maintenance of buildings, grounds, equipment and systems in accordance with safety procedures and safe work practices. Maintains cleanliness of facilities including sweeping, mopping, buffing and vacuuming floors and carpets; cleans surfaces including doors, windows and work surfaces; dusts shelving and equipment; performs custodial duties; and collects and disposes trash. Performs basic building maintenance; replaces light bulbs; performs basic repairs such as door knob replacement, blower fan repair, and other routine equipment repairs; maintains order with equipment, furnishings, work areas and supplies. Notifies appropriate resource for advanced troubleshooting or repair work. Performs basic grounds keeping and facilities maintenance; inspects areas to maintain safety and eliminate general hazards. Reviews supply needs and replenishes supply stock such as tissue, paper towels, trash liners and other supply needs; moves file boxes or other items to storage areas; ensures proper storage of cleaning materials, equipment and tools. Performs inventory check of supplies and initiates requests for replenishment. Maintains activity records or logs. Assists skilled maintenance workers with project tasks; may assist with basic carpentry, plumbing and electrical work. Position requires the ability to lift 50 pounds or more. May be exposed to hazardous cleaning chemicals. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : Administration (Dandan Office) **Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : $16,155.00 per annum to $19,850.00 per annum. (Salary is negotiable based on qualifications and experience.)
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.
POSITION(S) : One (1)

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS. Knowledge of: Applicable tools and equipment of assigned maintenance tasks; Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Performing routine and preventative maintenance in assigned area; Performing housekeeping or custodial work; Performing basic equipment or system repairs; Monitoring grounds and work areas for hazards and safety; Reviewing and replenishing stock supplies; Initiating stock and equipment replacement; Maintaining activity records or logs; Assisting with basic carpentry, plumbing and/or electrical work; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-ITB-16-013

SALE AND REMOVAL OF SCRAP MATERIALS FROM THE WAREHOUSE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is inviting interested individuals and firms to bid on CUC Scrap materials located in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained at no charge upon registration at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and One (1) copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-ITB-16-013, CUC Sale & Removal of Scrap Materials from the Warehouse"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 26, 2016, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Bidders must sign a Waiver of Liability, removing CUC's liability from claims resulting from violations relating to the removal and disposal of the scrap materials. CUC shall transfer and assign the scrap materials to the prospective bidder in an **"As is, Where is"** condition. By accepting the transfer and assignment, the bidder acknowledges that CUC has made no representation or warranties of the merchantability, quality, fitness, and condition of the scrap materials.

The scrap materials may be inspected by appointment only, between the hours of 9:00 AM thru 3:00 PM Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, by contacting CUC Warehouse Division at telephone no. 322-6585.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2016, to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Administrative Technician for Procurement via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-014

AS LITO WATER DISTRIBUTION UPGRADE AND REPLACEMENT/RELOCATION OF SERVICE LATERALS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of As Lito Water Distribution Upgrade and Replacement/Relocation of Service Laterals in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This work consists of new installation of new distribution lines, cut and cap of existing lines and tapping to existing mains. The work also includes the installation of new fire hydrants, flush hydrants, air relief valves, new water lateral connections, relocation and reconnection of existing water meters and asphalt pavement restoration, etc. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **May 19, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Five (5) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "*CUC-IFB-16-014, As Lito Water Distribution Upgrade and Replacement/Relocation of Service Laterals"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on June 9, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on May 23, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-16-015

NMC 1.0 MG WATER TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Northern Marianas College (NMC) 1.0 Million Gallon Water Tank Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists of installation of a new transmission line between the new NMC tank and existing Kannat Tabla tank; removal of existing fiberglass tanks, 1.0 Million Gallon steel tank, yard piping, concrete vaults, and all other appurtenances at the NMC tank site; additional boring, design and construction of the new NMC 1.0 Million Gallon pre-stressed concrete water tank and foundation; installation of new NMC water tank piping, valve vaults, control valves, and other appurtenances; installation of a new booster pump (triplex system) with back-up generator at the NMC tank site; construction of a new chlorination station at the NMC tank site; construction of a new perimeter security fencing and facility lighting at NMC tank site; and restoration of existing asphalt concrete road. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the water system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 420 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **May 31, 2016 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-16-015, Northern Marianas College (NMC) 1.0 Million Gallon Water Tank Replacement** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) June 21, 2016,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 1, 2016** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Administrative Support Assistant – marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

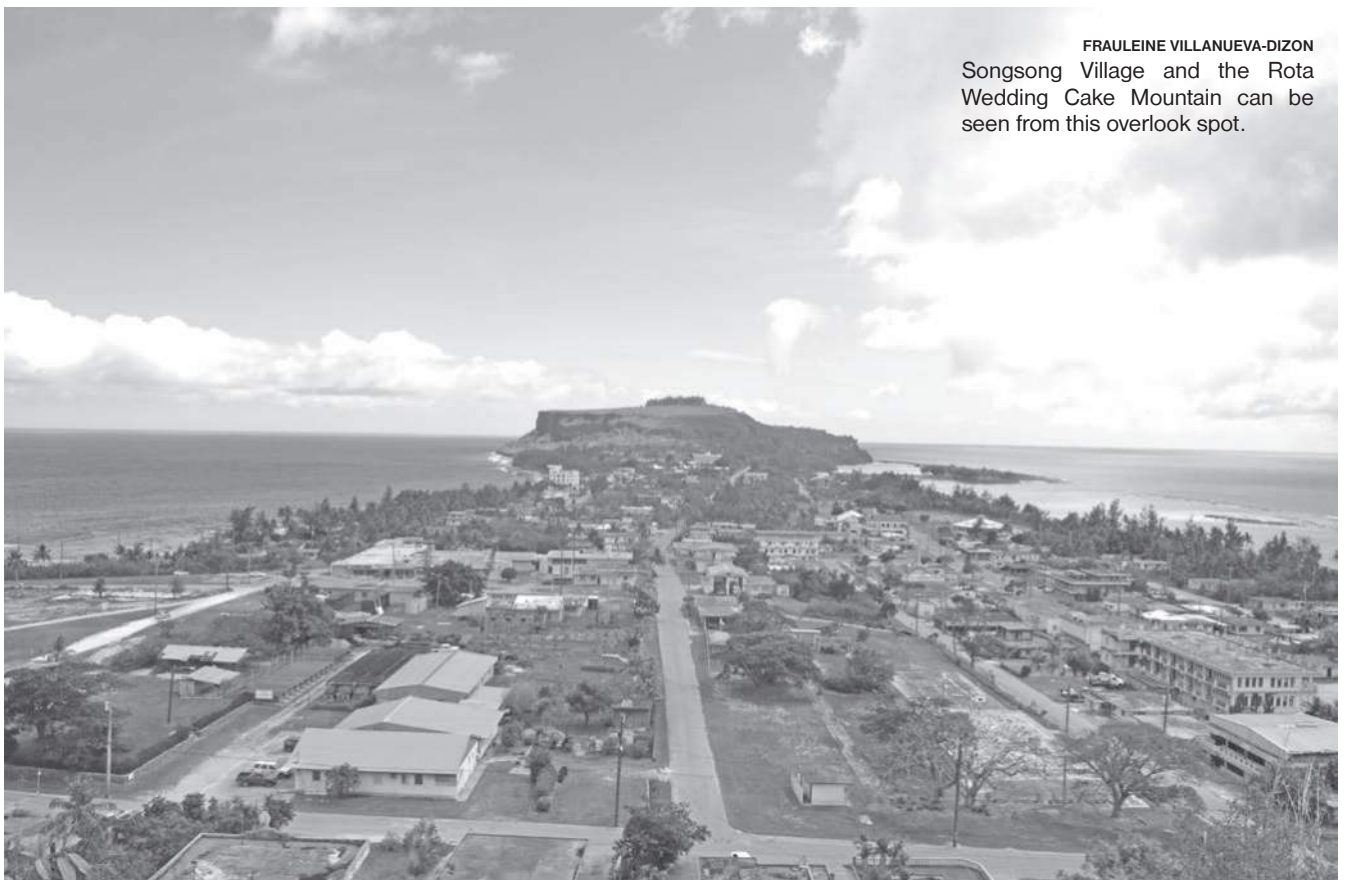
CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ GARY CAMACHO
Acting Executive Director

/s/ MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Rolling 'round rugged, rustic Rota

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
Songsong Village and the Rota Wedding Cake Mountain can be seen from this overlook spot.

ROTA—The charm of this "Friendly Island" rests in its rugged and rustic character—and most notably, of course, its remarkably receptive residents.

While one might say that these characteristics are found on all the frequented islands in the Northern Marianas, Rota's almost untouched, serene splendor, and its genuinely kind people separates it from urban Saipan and military heavy Tinian.

Before one even books a flight to this unassuming paradise of a place in the southernmost area of the CNMI, he or she would already hear of tales about how friendly the Rotanese are which really says something about the depths of their warmheartedness.

Whether driving or walking, passing by someone on Rota means you need to wave to say hello or acknowledge their presence as if you've known them a long time.

While there are different stories on the origin of the "waving gesture," one Rotanese simply explains that the practice was one that has been instilled in them growing up on their island, probably along with learning how to respect elders and protect their island.

Everyone knows everyone here, they said, as the island only has some 3,000 people living in it today.

The waving gesture has become a way of life, so much so that wherever the Rotanese people go, they take it with them, leaving people of other islands or foreign places baffled as to why such a person waived at them.

It has become a custom, and an identity to the island that Rota has been dubbed the "Friendly Island."

Recently, the local government even passed a resolution to declare a day of waving.

Rugged and rustic

Next to the people, the various natural and historical sites of course are a wonder on Rota.

Perhaps among the most frequented here is the Rota Latte Stone Quarry and the Swimming Hole.

The Quarry is among the 10 areas on Rota listed in the National Register of Historic Places out of the total 37 listed places in the CNMI.

It is also known as the As Nieves quarry where the largest abandoned latte or Taga stones were unearthed in the Marianas, which are believed to be used as housing foundations of the ancient Chamorros, were found.

Other areas listed for Rota under the National Registry are the Chudang Palii Japanese World War II Defensive Complex, Chugai' Pictograph Site, Commissioner's Office, Dugi Archeological Site, Japanese Coastal Defense Gun, Japanese Hospital, Mochong, Nanyo Kohatsu Kabushiki Kaisha Sugar Mill, and the Rectory.

The Swimming Hole is a gorgeous natural pool located along the reef line. Magnificent rock formations surround the pool where open ocean water comes in but it is safe to swim in there provided that waves are not too high and strong. It is near the Rota Resort and Country Club on the northwestern side of the island, but another way in would be from the main road going through a gravel road which passes by the now closed Rota Coconut Village, which is eerie but is still a pretty property.

Rota's beaches or coasts, unlike most on Saipan and Tinian, are near the reef line making them rocky and rough. The reefs stick out forming smaller and shallow pools. It may not be the perfect white-powdery beaches most people long for, but it shows Rota's unique character.

Another famous spot on Rota is the Wedding Cake Mountain or Mt. Tapingot whose cake-like form can be best viewed along the Sasanhaya Bay on the eastern side where the almost perfectly intact Japanese Coastal Defense Gun can be found or at the Songsong Village Overlook, where the Rotanese go during Holy Friday like the Saipanese goes to Mt. Tapochao.

Two days on the island is not enough to see all other sites such as the Sagua'gaga Seabird Sanctuary, the Taisacana's Botanical & Nature Trail, Tonga Cave, Tweksberry Park, and the Rota Zoo.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
An almost intact Japanese Coastal Defense Gun along the Sasanhaya Bay on the eastern side of Rota.

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
The old train at the Japanese Sugar Mill on Rota

There are also local delicacies to be enjoyed such as the ayuyu (coconut crab) or deer which to be able to try means you have to be invited by one of the locals in their houses. However, of course, one would never forget buying at least a sack of Rota's famous sweet potatoes to bring on the flight home.

Rota indeed is a raw beauty, and the people there recognize the treasure that they have by taking good care of it. Unlike other frequented tourists sites, I haven't seen a piece of trash on the sites on Rota and the local government is promoting ecotourism than any other type of industry or development on island.

While not everyone who visits Rota may be as enchanted by her beauty to stay, Rota's charm especially the warmth of its people, is one that will cherish and will be etched forever in memory.

Latte stones and its similar structures can be seen all around Rota. FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
Artifacts and other interesting items such as these parts of old missiles can be found at Rota's Cave Museum.

2016 NMC Commencement Exercises

PHOTOS By THOMAS MANGLONA II

Graduates cheer and smile as they turn their tassels, marking their transition from student to alumni of the island's only college.

Parents, family, friends, and members of the community fill the Koblerville gymnasium on for the Northern Marianas College's commencement exercise. A record-breaking number of 204 students graduated on Saturday, including the first batch of students with their bachelor's degree in business management.

Members of the graduating class applaud as they and their peers officials become alumni of the Northern Marianas College.

Island politicians, business leaders, and other dignitaries look on as graduates receive their diplomas during last Saturday's commencement exercise.

Professors, faculty, and staff of the Northern Marianas College witness the graduation of 204 NMC students, the largest in history.

NMC External Relations director Frankie Eliptico delivers the keynote address at the Northern Marianas College's commencement exercise Saturday.

Riya Rajkumar Nathrani was awarded the Student Leadership Award and was one of two recipients of the prestigious Academic Excellence award

Carey Nishizuki Demapan, graduating with her Associate of Science in natural resource management, is this year's recipient of the Excellence in Service award as well as 2nd honor.

Nicole Ichihara Sablan is one of two recipients of the prestigious Academic Excellence award.

Business

Obama is off to Asia to boost trade, cooperation

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama departed Saturday on a weeklong, 16,000-mile trip to Asia, part of his effort to pay more attention to the region and boost economic and security cooperation.

He'll spend three days in Vietnam, with stops in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, for meetings with leaders, a speech on U.S.-Vietnam relations, visits to cultural treasures and sessions with civic leaders and entrepreneurs. From Vietnam, he heads to Japan for a summit of the Group of Seven industrialized nations and a historic visit to Hiroshima.

Along the way, Obama will make a big push for the 12-nation trans-Pacific trade agreement, which includes the U.S., Vietnam and Japan. The deal is stalled in Congress, but Obama hopes it will one day increase trade in the region and make it easier for U.S. workers and companies to compete in Asia. The deal faces strong opposition from the leading 2016 presidential candidates and other critics, who say it doesn't do enough to protect U.S. workers from unfair competition.

President Barack Obama walks from Marine One to board Air Force One, in Andrews Air Force Base, Md, Saturday, May 21, 2016, on his way to Vietnam. AP

A sticking point during Obama's stay in Vietnam will be human rights. Five Republican senators sent the president a letter Friday labeling Vietnam "one of the most repressive regimes in the world" and urging Obama to press Vietnamese leaders to do more to respect freedom of religion and expression and other human rights. The letter was signed by Sens. Marco Rubio of Florida, John Boozman of Arkansas, John Cornyn of Texas, James Lankford of Oklahoma and Bill Cassidy of Louisiana.

G7 takes aim at terrorist financing; rifts on policy remain

AKIU, Japan (AP)—The Group of Seven major economies showed a united front on fighting terrorist financing and tax evasion in talks that ended Saturday, but shied away from coordinated action on policies to revive stalling growth.

An "action plan" issued after the talks by G7 finance ministers and central bank governors at a hot springs hotel in northern Japan called for increased exchanges of information on financial intelligence, reducing the level of cross-border transactions subject to disclosure and collaborating on targeted sanctions for terrorists' financial networks, including freezing assets.

"There's a moment for reflecting, for putting forward ideas, for comparing them, and then comes the moment for action. This is where we are today," said France's finance minister, Michel Sapin, whose country has suffered devastating attacks in the past few years.

The talks in Akiu, to be followed by a G7 summit in central Japan's Ise region next week, started out with a brainstorming session on how best to use monetary policy, government spending and longer-term reforms to help support growth.

But they ended with countries stressing the need for varying strategies for boosting growth.

Most of the governments of the G7 favor more pro-active government spending to help support flagging growth and spur demand, while Germany has remained more conservative on fiscal matters, regarding structural reforms as crucial.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew said the lack of coordinated action, in the absence of a crisis, was natural, given the varying conditions and resources in each country.

"We each have unique challenges that have to be addressed, so it's not one-size-fits-all," Lew said. "Different times require different responses. We're not in 2008 or 2009."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Sugar shortage leads Coca-Cola to halt Venezuela production

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Coca-Cola is halting production in Venezuela of its namesake beverage due to a sugar shortage brought on by the country's grinding economic crisis. The Atlanta-based company said in an emailed statement Friday said that its production of sugar-sweetened beverages will be suspended in the coming days after local suppliers reported they had run out of the raw material. Sugar-free beverages are not affected and the company said its offices and distribution centers remain open in Venezuela. The move comes as Venezuela's economy is teetering on the edge of collapse with widespread food shortages and inflation forecast to surpass 700 percent. Last month, Empresas Polar, Venezuela's largest food and beverage company, stopped production of beer because of a lack of imported barley.

Russian military shows off its elite aerobatic flying teams

KUBINKA AIR BASE, Russia (AP)—The Russian military's elite aerobatic squadrons have marked their 25-year jubilee with an air show outside Moscow. The Strizhi (the Swifts) aerobatic team flying MiG-29 jets and the Russkiye Vityazi (the Russian Knights) operating the heavier Su-27 fighters performed Saturday before enthusiastic crowds at their home base west of the Russian capital. The show included spectacular low passes and synchronous maneuvers showing off the jets' high thrust and maneuverability. The show culminated in a joint stunt with both teams flying together in one tight formation. Russia's air and space forces chief, Col. Gen. Viktor Bondarev, said both aerobatic teams will soon re-equip to new jets capable of even more stunning aerobatics. Amid tensions with the West, the Kremlin has pushed forward a massive arms modernization program despite Russia's economic problems.

Nation

Man shot outside White House remains in critical condition

WASHINGTON (AP)—A man shot by a U.S. Secret Service officer outside the White House remained in critical condition in a Washington hospital Saturday, one day after the shooting, a hospital spokeswoman said.

George Washington University Hospital spokeswoman Susan Griffiths would provide only his condition. She referred other questions to the Secret Service, but a spokesman for that agency, Robert Hoback, declined to discuss the case, citing the continuing investigation.

On Friday, a U.S. law enforcement official said that authorities identified the gunman as Jesse Oliveri of Ashland, Pennsylvania, about 80 miles northwest of Philadelphia. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the official was not authorized to release the information.

Secret Service Deputy Assistant Director David Iacovetti said Friday that one of the agency's officers shot the man once after he approached a checkpoint at about 3 p.m. and refused repeated commands to drop his weapon.

Iacovetti said the gunman never made it inside the White House complex, and no one else was injured.

The Metropolitan Police Department, the Secret Service, Park Police and the FBI said in a joint statement Friday night that there was "no known nexus to terrorism."

Messages left Saturday at a home telephone number for Oliveri in Ashland weren't returned.

John Yagielniskie, of Girardville, Pennsylvania, told WNEP-TV (http://bit.ly/1TrxiRZ) that he knew Jesse Oliveri his whole life.

"He was one of my best friends. We went to football games together. That is messed up," Yagielniskie said.

Yagielniskie said Oliveri continued to loyally attend his alma mater's football games after graduating from North Schuylkill High School in 2003.

"Football season starts, I see him. We go to the games. We always go to the games," added Yagielniskie.

Cathy Hadesty, who lives across the street in the wooded area, said police closed a section of the road near the house Friday night but reopened it by Saturday.

Hadesty said she never met Oliveri and only knows the family "just to say, 'Hi,' when we're going down the driveway."

"They've always been really good neighbors," she said.

Court records show that Oliveri, 31, had just one recorded run-in with police in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, resulting in a 2004 guilty plea to careless driving.

Clinton calls Trump's gun policies "dangerous"

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—Donald Trump's gun policies are "not just way out there" but "dangerous" and would make America less safe, Hillary Clinton said Saturday.

"This is someone running to be president of the United States of America—a country facing a gun violence epidemic—and he's talking about more guns in our schools, he's talking about more hatred and division in our streets," the likely Democratic presidential nominee said of her presumptive Republican rival. "That's no way to keep us safe."

Clinton's criticism of the Trump came the day after he slammed her as "Heartless Hillary" for backing restrictions on gun ownership in a speech before the National Rifle Association convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

Clinton spoke at a conference organized by the Trayvon Martin Foundation to help mothers whose children or other relatives have died from shootings. It was led by Sybrina Fulton, whose 17-year-old son, Trayvon Martin, was fatally shot by neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman in 2012. She has campaigned with Clinton during the Democratic presidential primaries.

"The reason why I stand with her is because she first stood with me," Fulton said before introducing Clinton to more than 200 people packed inside a hotel banquet room.

Queen Thompson Brown, a Miami mother whose son was the victim of gun violence in 2006 and who has mentored Fulton, said she and others do not want to take away guns from Americans but hope to "promote common sense gun laws."

Clinton praised the courage of Fulton and others who had suffered the loss of loved ones to gun violence or while in police custody.

"We have a moral obligation to protect our children no matter what zip code they live in," she said.

Biden: Diverse military of women, gays strengthens US forces

WEST POINT, N.Y. (AP)—Vice President Joe Biden told the U.S. Military Academy's class of 2016 on Saturday that greater diversity, including more women and openly gay soldiers, will strengthen the country's armed forces.

"Having men and women together in the battlefield is an incredible asset, particularly when they're asked to lead teams in parts of the world with fundamentally different expectations and norms," Biden said in his speech at a graduation ceremony at Michie Stadium on the West Point grounds along the Hudson River.

More than 950 cadets received their degrees and commissions as second lieutenants. Among them were the first seven women to be commissioned into combat divisions since combat restrictions for them were lifted.

The vice president saluted class president Eugene "E.J." Coleman for publicly coming out as gay.

Before the repeal of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy in 2010, "E.J. would have been discharged from the Army, and we would have lost an incredible talent," he said. "Thanks for your courage, E.J., and I expect we're going to hear big things from you, pal."

Biden also warned the graduating class that it's facing a vast range of complex challenges, including battling Islamic State extremists, containing outbreaks of contagious diseases and defending against cyberattacks.

"Whenever the stakes are highest, we turn to the United States Army," he said. "Whether it's fighting terrorism, training our partners, reassuring our allies or providing humanitarian relief, we call on you," he said. "And right now, the stakes could not be higher."

Biden singled out cyberattacks as a growing threat that could allow American enemies to knock out the nation's power grid or disable satellite systems.

Asia

A look at verbal U-turns by PH's likely next leader

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Rodrigo Duterte kept Filipinos guessing for months last year whether he would run for president. He repeatedly declared that he wouldn't, then cited different reasons when he finally did. On the campaign trail, he flipped and flopped on a number of key pronouncements. That has made it difficult to discern when the brash Duterte, who spikes his speeches with sarcasm and hyperbole for added punch, is serious or, in his own words, is "just taking you for a ride."

Some of the verbal U-turns made by the Philippines' likely next president:

RUNNING OR NOT?

Last year, Duterte kept the entire country and his rivals at a loss over whether he would run for president, declaring initially in a June 21 TV interview that he was not closing the door on the prospect. "I will leave it open for God to decide," he said. He turned around the next day, chiding reporters for not listening carefully and telling them what he actually said was that he was keeping his doorway open for women.

As an October deadline for signing up for the race approached, he rejected clamors for him to run by supporters, some of whom, including his daughter, shaved their heads to underscore their plea. Duterte said he didn't harbor the ambition to be president.

The following month, however, he switched places with a fellow party member who had registered for the race, saying he decided to run out of dismay over a decision to allow a rival candidate to run despite protests that she was not a natural-born Filipino as the constitution requires. He would later say he ran because his southern region has been neglected by past presidents.

ZERO CRIME

On the campaign trail, Duterte promised to end crime and corruption in three to six months, an impossible feat that nevertheless resonated with crime-weary Filipinos. "If I fail," he dared, "kill me."

Duterte eventually toned down the big promise, saying in a campaign rally that "I cannot really stop as in stop (crime). For as long as there is society, and there are men and women and children in society, there will always be crime."

"Ending" then gave way to "suppressing" crime.

POPE GO HOME

In November, Duterte cursed Pope Francis for causing a traffic jam during a Manila visit that trapped Duterte for five hours. He told a crowd, "I wanted to call and tell him, 'Pope, you son of a bitch, go home. Don't visit here anymore.'"

Amid ensuing criticism, he backtracked and explained that he was cursing the mishandling of the traffic and not the pontiff. Still, he wrote a letter of apology to the Vatican.

After it became clear Duterte had won the presidency, his spokesman announced plans to visit the Vatican because "he really needs to explain to the pope and ask for forgiveness."

Three days later, Duterte shot down the idea, saying he had canceled the planned Vatican trip. Duterte said he had already sent a letter of apology to the leader of the Catholic world, adding, "That's enough."

CONFRONTING CHINA

Duterte and his camp have adopted a gamut of options in dealing with China over contested territories in the South China Sea. Under his presidency, he said the Philippines will prod China to abide by the upcoming decision of an arbitration court that's handling a Philippine lawsuit against Beijing. If China doesn't budge, he says he'll be open to one-on-one talks with Beijing. Another time, he said he leaned toward multilateral negotiations that would involve the United States and Japan and rival claimant governments to resolve the escalating conflicts.

But at a televised debate he revealed his most outlandish approach: He said he has thought about traveling to the disputed waters by Jet Ski and planting a Philippine flag on one of the new Chinese man-made islands, saying it's up to the Chinese to shoot him and turn him into a national hero.

ASIAN BRIEFS

73 dead, scores missing in weeklong Sri Lanka storms

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Sri Lanka's government has raised the death toll from landslides and heavy flooding around the island nation to 73, as soldiers continue searching for scores of people missing since deadly landslides struck hill country several days ago. In the capital, Colombo, and its suburbs, thousands of homes remained inundated Saturday, though there were signs of the waters receding. About 243,000 people remained in temporary shelters nationwide. Soldiers looked for bodies among thick mud deposits in the central district of Kegalle, where landslides swallowed up three villages on Tuesday.

Volcano erupts in western Indonesia, killing 6 people

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Rescuers have found more bodies after a volcano erupted in western Indonesia, raising the death toll to six, an official said Sunday. Mount Sinabung in North Sumatra province blasted volcanic ash as high as 3 kilometers (2 miles) into the sky on Saturday, said National Disaster Management Agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho. He said ash tumbled down the slopes as far as 4.5 kilometers (3 miles) westward into a river. The mountain had been dormant for four centuries before reviving in 2010, killing two people. An eruption in 2014 killed 16 people.

Cyclone kills 5 in Bangladesh, forces thousands from homes

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—A cyclone unleashed heavy rain and strong winds on Bangladesh's southern coastal region on Saturday, killing at least five people and forcing hundreds of thousands from their homes. Local media say the deaths were caused by the collapse of houses in Bhola, Chittagong and Patuakhali districts. Cyclone Roanu crossed the southern coastal district of Cox's Bazar and weakened after triggering rains. The meteorological office said in a statement that dozens of villages had been submerged by floodwaters.

World

Smoke, cockpit woes signal chaotic end for EgyptAir plane

CAIRO (AP)—Leaked flight data showing trouble in the cockpit and smoke in a plane lavatory are bringing into focus the chaotic final moments of EgyptAir Flight 804, including a three-minute period before contact was lost as alarms on the Airbus 320 screeched one after another.

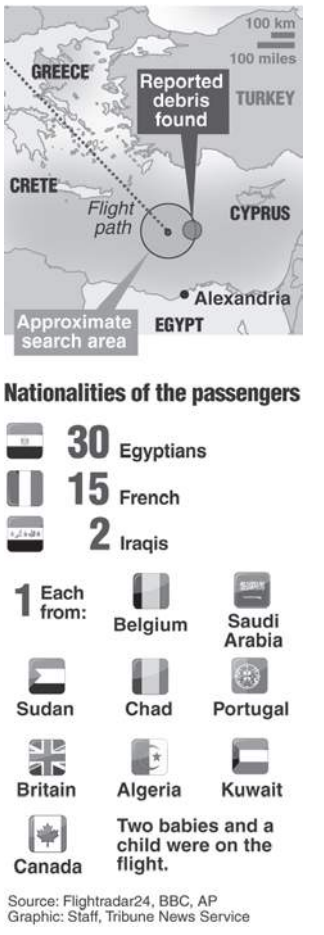
Officials caution it's still too early to say what happened to the aircraft - France's foreign minister said Saturday that "all the hypotheses are being examined" - but mounting evidence points to a sudden, dramatic catastrophe that led to its crash into the eastern Mediterranean early Thursday.

The Egyptian military on Saturday released the first images of aircraft debris plucked from the sea, including personal items and damaged seats. Egypt is leading a multi-nation effort to search for the plane's black boxes - the flight data and cockpit voice recorders - and other clues that could help explain its sudden plunge into the sea.

"If they lost the aircraft within three minutes that's very, very quick," said aviation security expert Philip Baum. "They were dealing with an extremely serious incident."

Authorities say the plane lurched left, then right, spun all the way around and plummeted 38,000 feet (11,582 meters) into the sea - never issuing a distress call.

The Facebook page of the chief spokesman for Egypt's military showed the first photographs of debris from the plane, shredded remains of plane seats, life jackets - one seemingly undamaged - and a scrap of cloth that might be part of a baby's purple-and-pink blanket.



The spokesman, Brig-Gen. Mohammed Samir, later posted a video showing what appeared to be a piece of blue carpet, seat belts, a shoe and a white handbag. The clip opened with aerial footage of an unidentified navy ship followed by a speedboat heading toward floating debris.

Flight 804 left from Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport on Wednesday night en route to Cairo with 66 people aboard. The first available audio from the doomed flight indicates that all was routine as the pilot checked in with air traffic controllers in Zurich, Switzerland, around midnight, before being handed over to Italian air traffic controllers in Padua (Padova): Pilot - "This is 0-7-2-5 Padova control. (Unintelligible) 8-0-4. Thank you so much. Good day er good night."

The communication, taken from liveatc.net which provides live air traffic control broadcasts from around the world, occurred about 2 Ω hours before Greek air traffic controllers lost contact with the plane.

Greek officials say at 2:24 a.m. local time the flight entered the Athens sector of Greek airspace. Twenty-four minutes later, controllers chatted with the pilot, who appeared to be in good spirits.

In Greek, the pilot quipped: "Thank you."

Police, soldiers swarm Mexico's Acapulco, killings continue

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP)—Along with beach towels or sandals, there's a new popular beach accessory that says a lot about the violence gripping this once-glamorous resort: a small black leather tote hanging from the neck or shoulders of some men. It's not a man-bag, exactly; it holds a small pistol.

"When I saw you guys standing outside my office, I almost went for my bag," said one businessman who lives in terror after getting death threats and extortion demands by criminal gangs at his office four blocks from the water. "I'm in fear for my life."

Death can strike anywhere in Acapulco these days: A sarong vendor was slain on the beach in January by a gunman who escaped on a Jet Ski. Another man was gunned down while enjoying a beer at a seaside restaurant. In the hillside slums that ring the city, a 15-year-old girl's body was found chopped into pieces and wrapped in a blanket, her severed head in a bucket nearby with a hand-lettered sign from a drug gang.

The upsurge in killings has made Acapulco one of Mexico's most violent places, scaring away what international tourism remained and recently prompting the U.S. government to bar its employees from traveling here for any reason.

In response, Mexico has lined the city's coastal boulevard with heavily armed police and soldiers, turning Acapulco into a high-profile test case for a security strategy that the government has used elsewhere: When homicides spike, flood the area with troops.

Today it's almost easier to find a truck full of soldiers, a federal policeman or a gaggle of local tourist cops than it is to find a taxi along the "costera," the seaside boulevard that runs through the hotel zone. Marines patrol the beach, while federal police watch over the breakwaters.

"This area has been made bulletproof," Guerrero state prosecutor Xavier Olea said.

Except it hasn't. A week after AP reporters visited, gunmen shot to death three young men in broad daylight two blocks away from the restaurant; two of their bullet-ridden bodies lay on the concrete just off the beach, and one bled out on the sand. Two were waiters, and the third a roving coconut oil vendor.

Health & Fitness

Child obesity in US has grown unabated since 1999, study finds

By MELISSA HEALY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

A handful of preliminary studies in recent years has raised hopes the epidemic of U.S. child obesity has stabilized or reversed. But new research finds continued growth in American kids' girth, suggesting that self-congratulation would be premature.

Among children from infancy through age 18, rates of obesity have increased steadily from 1999 to 2014, and the numbers of children with the severest forms of obesity have risen most dramatically, a new study finds.

About a third—33.4 percent of American children in 2014—were overweight, and just over half of those kids (17.4 percent of all children) weighed in as obese (which is defined as being at or above the 95th percentile of height and weight on age- and gender-specific growth charts).

While most obese children are classified as having Class I obesity, about a third of obese kids (or 6.2 percent of all U.S. children) are thought to have severe obesity (either Class II obesity—at or above 120 percent of the 95th percentile on the growth charts—or Class III obesity, which is diagnosed when a child is at or above 140 percent of the 95th percentile for his or her age).

Recognizing weight problems or obesity in a child is complex, and parents are notoriously bad judges of whether their children's weight is worrisome.

Rates of obesity among all American children have risen from 14.6 percent in 1999-2000 to 17.4 percent in 2013-14. The severely obese were a small slice of the population in 1999. But the percentage of children categorized with Class II and Class III obesity has risen steeply over the same period: from 4 percent to 6.3 percent for Class II-or-above obesity and from 0.9 percent to 2.4 percent for Class III obesity.

The new study, published Monday in the journal Obesity, dims optimism prompted by research published two years ago, when a similar population-wide study found a large drop in obesity rates among toddlers, ages 2 to 5. The decline was hailed as the possible leading edge of a reversal in U.S. child obesity—a positive response to public health initiatives aimed at driving down the nation's girth.

The authors of the current study, researchers at Duke University, University of North Carolina and Wake Forest University, dashed even that small glimmer of hope. The reported decline, they wrote, "is not evident in our results, for girls or boys."

Amid widespread efforts to improve kids' diets and boost their physical activity levels, other studies have documented stabilization or reversal of obesity rates in smaller segments of U.S. children, including in California, New York, Philadelphia and in some counties of Mississippi.

Those pockets of progress may still exist. But the current study suggests they are being washed out by continuing, surging growth in child obesity rates.

All told, 4.5 million U.S. children and adolescents are now considered severely obese, and they'll need "novel and intensive efforts for long-term obesity improvement," the researchers wrote.

These are children who are overwhelmingly likely to remain very heavy into adulthood. And since even youngsters show early signs of cardiovascular disease and metabolic disorders when they carry so much extra weight, they are likely to become adults with a heavy burden of chronic diseases—and very likely shortened lifespans.

Duke University's Asheley Cockrell Skinner, a childhood obesity expert and lead author of the study, called the hike in severe obesity the study's "most disheartening" finding. While slowing a child's weight gain and reversing his or her obesity is a challenge, Skinner said, children and their parents should not feel alone in the fight.

"This is really a population health problem that will require changes across the board—food policy, access to health care, school curriculums that include physical education, community and local resources in parks and sidewalks," Skinner said. "A lot of things put together can work."

Earlier this month, Harvard University child obesity specialist Dr. David Ludwig warned that a 2015 surge in deaths across the age span from obesity-related diseases might signal "a looming social and economic catastrophe that demands a comprehensive national strategy." Unless public officials and Americans put health concerns before commercial ones, Ludwig wrote, decades of vaulting progress in extending U.S. lifespans will be reversed by the epidemic of obesity.

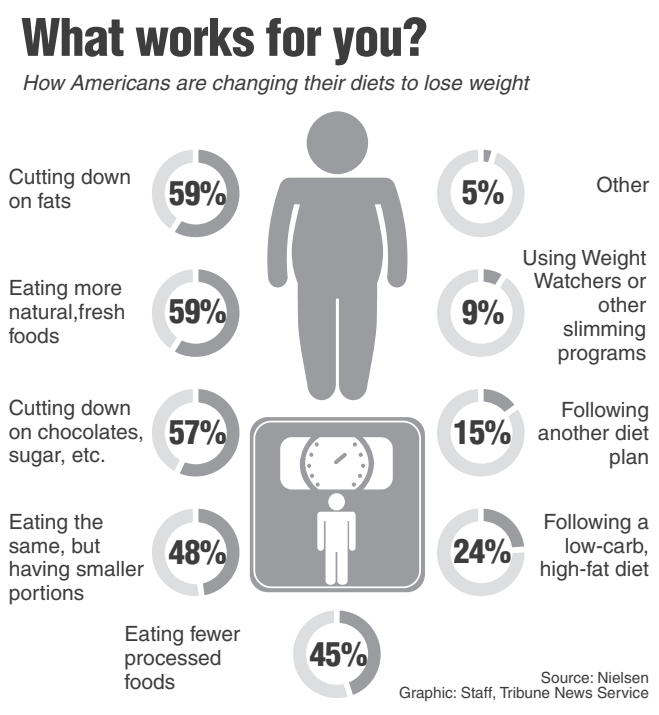
Among adolescents in the current study, 1 in 10 were defined as having Class II-or-above obesity in 2013-14, and half of those were defined as suffering Class III obesity—the most extreme. Although boys and girls were roughly equally likely to be obese, girls were more likely than boys to be severely obese. And the proportion of girls in those categories grew faster than that among boys.

The new study confirms that obesity rates are either growing fast or stubbornly high within ethnic minority communities.

Among African-American girls, very high rates of obesity—as high as 24.4 percent in 2005-06, have dropped slightly. Among black girls, 20.9 percent were obese in 2013-14 (of whom almost 60 percent had Class II or Class III obesity). Latino girls have overtaken African-American girls in obesity rates, going from 15.4 percent obese in 1999 to 22.1 percent in 2013-14 (about half of whom were severely obese).

Among non-Latino white girls, 14.8 percent were obese in 2014—up from 12 percent in 1999-2000.

White and black boys were roughly equally likely to be obese (16.6 percent vs. 16.8 percent), although obese African-American boys in 2014 were far more likely than obese white boys to have severe obesity. Fully 21.2 percent of Latino boys were obese in 2013-14, and close to 1 in 4 such boys was considered severely obese.



Makeover coming for food nutrition labels

First lady Michelle Obama announces a makeover for food nutrition labels with calories listed in bigger, bolder type and a new line for added sugars, while speaking to the Building a Healthier Future Summit in Washington, Friday, May 20, 2016. AP

WASHINGTON (AP)—A new look is coming to Nutrition Facts labels on food packages, with more attention to calorie counts and added sugars. And no longer will a small bag of chips count as two or three servings.

Michelle Obama said parents will be the beneficiaries.

"You will no longer need a microscope, a calculator, or a degree in nutrition to figure out whether the food you're buying is actually good for our kids," the first lady said Friday, announcing the new rules.

The changes were first proposed by the Food and Drug Administration two years ago and are the first major update to the labels since their introduction in 1994. They are now on more than 800,000 foods.

The overhaul comes amid scientific advances. While fat was the focus when the labels were created, calories are of greater concern these days. The calorie listing will now be much larger than anything else on the label, making it hard to overlook.

Nutrition advocates have long sought an added sugars line on the label so consumers can understand how much sugar in an item is naturally occurring, like that in fruit and dairy products, and how much is put in by the manufacturer. Think an apple vs. sweetened apple sauce.

The labels will also include a new "percent daily value" for sugars, telling people how much of their recommended daily intake they will get from each item. This year's guidelines recommend no more than 10 percent of calories from added sugar, a limit of around 200 calories or 50 grams.

"The new labels should also spur food manufacturers to add less sugar to their products," Michael Jacobson, president of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, an advocacy group. He said it's currently impossible for consumers studying the labels to know how much sugar fits into a reasonable diet.

Serving sizes will be clearer, listed at the top of the graphic. And they will be less misleading, making it easier to figure out how many servings are in a container.

That means revised calculations for about a fifth of foods.

The idea behind listing a whole package of food, or an entire drink, as one serving isn't to motivate people to eat more. It is to help them understand how many calories they are consuming. By law, serving sizes should be based on actual consumption and not ideal consumption.

A serving size of ice cream will now be based on average consumption of 2/3 of a cup. Previously it was a half-cup. Products between one and two servings, such as a 20-ounce soda or a 15-ounce soup can, will be labeled as a single serving because that's how much people typically eat in one sitting.

Larger packages, like a pint of ice cream, will have labels with two columns. One will show serving information; the other is for the whole container.

Labels also must now list levels of potassium and Vitamin D, nutrients Americans don't get enough of. Vitamins A and C are no longer required but can be included. Iron and calcium stay.

Most food companies have until July 2018 to comply. Smaller companies have an extra year.

Industry reaction has been mixed. The Sugar Association said the emphasis on added sugar distracts attention from calories, potentially causing confusion. They have fought the new rules alongside some companies, including beverage makers who say they are already putting calorie labels on the front of cans and bottles.

Consumers may notice the added sugars information most when buying sugary drinks. A 20-ounce bottle of Coca-Cola, for example, has 65 grams of sugar, or 130 percent of the recommended daily value.

Life & Style

Deposition text: Cosby's wife refused to answer many queries

BOSTON (AP)—Bill Cosby's wife refused to answer dozens of questions during a combative deposition in a defamation lawsuit filed by seven women who say the comedian branded them liars after they accused him of sexually assaulting them, according to a transcript released Friday.

Camille Cosby was subjected to intense questioning by the women's lawyer, who repeatedly pressed her to say whether she believes her husband "acted with a lack of integrity" during their 52-year marriage. The lawyer also asked if her husband used his position and power "to manipulate young women."

Camille Cosby didn't answer those questions and many others after her lawyer cited marital privilege, the legal protection given to communications between spouses. She repeatedly said she had "no opinion" when pressed on whether she viewed her husband's behavior as dishonest and a violation of their marriage vows.

About 50 women have publicly accused Bill Cosby of forcing unwanted sexual contact on them decades ago. Cosby has denied the allegations. He faces a criminal case in Pennsylvania, where prosecutors have charged him with sexually violating a former Temple University employee, Andrea Constand. He has pleaded not guilty.

In this Oct. 26, 2009 file photo, comedian Bill Cosby, left, and his wife Camille appear at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts before he received the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor in Washington. AP

Camille Cosby answered questions in the deposition Feb. 22 and again April 19 after her lawyers argued unsuccessfully to stop it. A judge ruled she would have to give a deposition but said she could refuse to answer questions about private communications between her and her husband.

Camille Cosby's lawyer, Monique Pressley, repeatedly cited that privilege and advised her not to answer many questions asked by the women's lawyer, Joseph Cammarata. The exchanges between Cammarata and Cosby became testy at times, and she admonished him: "Don't lecture me. Just keep going with the questions."

Using a transcript of a deposition Bill Cosby gave in a civil lawsuit filed by Constand in 2005 and a transcript of an interview she gave to Oprah Winfrey in 2000, Cammarata asked Camille Cosby about extramarital affairs her husband had.

"Were you aware of your husband setting up trusts for the benefit of women that he had a sexual relationship with?" Cammarata asked.

She didn't answer after her lawyer cited marital privilege.

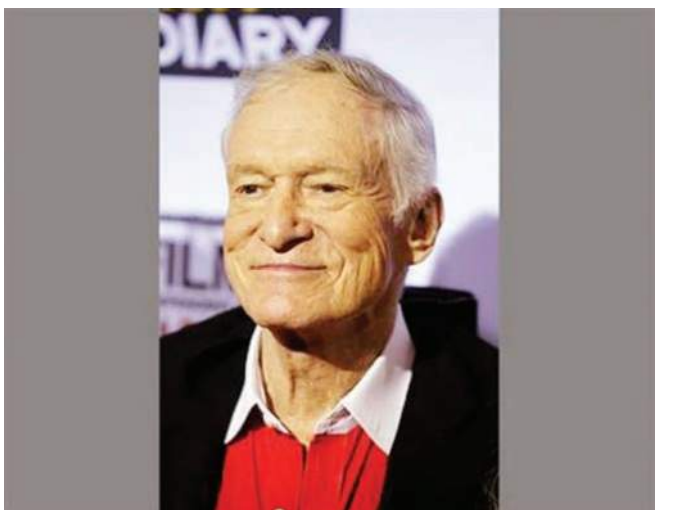
Cammarata asked her about Shawn Thompson, a woman who said Bill Cosby fathered her daughter, Autumn Jackson, in the 1970s. Jackson was convicted in 1997 of attempting to extort money from Bill Cosby to prevent her from telling a tabloid she's his daughter. He acknowledged he had an affair with her mother and had given her money.

Lawyer: Hugh Hefner gives testimony in Bill Cosby sex case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An attorney for a woman suing Bill Cosby for sexual battery says Playboy founder Hugh Hefner has given sworn testimony in the case.

Gloria Allred says Hefner provided a deposition on Wednesday at the Playboy Mansion but the contents of the testimony are under seal. Hefner gave the testimony in a case filed by Judy Huth, who alleges Cosby forced her to perform a sex act on him around 1974 at Hefner's mansion.

Hefner was sued along with Cosby on Monday by another woman who claims the comedian sexually abused her at the mansion in 2008.



In this Oct. 28, 2011 file photo, Hugh Hefner arrives at the premiere of "The Rum Diary" in Los Angeles. AP

Cosby has denied both women's allegations and his former lawyers have accused Huth of attempting to extort him before suing.

An email message sent to a Playboy spokeswoman seeking comment was not immediately returned.

TO MY NEW LIFE IN PARADISE

BENJAMIN VINCENT AYUYU SABLAN

[Lovingly known as "Ben" or "Ben Kappon"]

was born on January 2, 1959 and answered our Lord's call to begin his new life in Paradise on May 16, 2016.

Ben's strong family ties, his inspiration, pleasant personality, laughter, jokes, commitment and dedication, and most especially his love will forever be in the heart of his daughter ***Kimberly Crystal Songsong Sablan and Oscar Padilla Mejia (Benjamin Joerone, Ian Antonio, Sophia Josephine).*** These memories will also be instilled in the hearts of his mother, ***Ana Ayuyu Sablan***; his siblings and their families, ***George A.***/Dolores B. Sablan (Charlene/Jacob Luii; George B./Clarence Sablan; Carmen Anne; Doralyn S./Rodney Tenorio; Cecile S./Elmer Diaz; Caroline); ***Jesus E. Lagadia*** (Jennifer S. Cavanaugh; Vincent Sablan/Sanivette Babauta; Maryann L./Sherman Santos); ***Belinda S.***/John C. Tenorio (John Vincent; Annalyn; Marlayna; Ashley); ***Elizabeth S.***/Joe Atalig & family; ***Noreen A. Sablan*** & family; ***Melvin Sablan*** & daughter; ***Bill James Sablan***/Charlotte Villagomez & family; his mother in-law ***Maria Babauta Songsong;*** his brothers and sisters-in-law ***Jose B.***/Maria M. Songsong (Annmarie Songsong/Oscar Quitugua; Roger; Carlene Songsong/Jose Pinaula; Vincent); ***Manuel B.***/Fairie Songsong (Carol S./Frank Demapan; Camille); ***Ricardo B.***/Carmel R. Songsong (Georgia Salas/Calvin Yamagishi; Jason; Joshua; Kianna); ***Joaquin B.***/Nancy Songsong (Crystal Songsong/Donald Siedler; Andrew Jon/Kathy Songsong); ***Francisco B.***/Maryann S. Songsong (Francisco, Jr.; Michelle Songsong/Jermaine Barcinas; Francine Songsong/James Toves; Kyle Songsong/Oceana Aldan); ***Diego B.***/Maryjane Songsong (Jacqueline; Kurt; Sheila; Gilbert); ***Maryann S.***/John You (Bernadette Sheleen); ***Patricia B. Songsong*** (Keo Delos Santos/Ana Manglona; Austin; Simon; Blaise; Chayanne; Keanu; Chantielle, Joseph Jr.) and Special Friend ***Melinda Regis***.

Ben is greeted at Heaven's gate and jubilantly joins his wife +***Josephine Lillian Songsong Sablan***; his father +***Herman Atalig Sablan***; his sister +***Frances Sablan Lagadia***; his father-in-law ***Vicente Ayuyu Songsong*** and his grandparents +***Benigno Olupomar*** & +***Consolacion Atalig Sablan***; +***Vicente Ayuyu*** & +***Francisca Mendiola Ayuyu***; +***Rainaldo A. & +Maria Songsong Manglona***.

Ben's concern for others, especially those whom he crossed path with, his generosity and his openness to assist those in need, rewarded him of the friendship he gained throughout his lifetime. His memories will forever be remembered by his many aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces, godchildren and their parents, classmates, and his numerous friends.

Visitation and last respects are welcomed on ***Wednesday, May 25, 2016 beginning at 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m.*** Interment services to follow immediately at Mount Carmel Cemetery where he will be laid to peaceful rest with his wife, +***Josephine***.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated.

KIMBERLY CRYSTAL SONGSONG SABLAN & FAMILY
ANA AYUYU SABLAN & FAMILY
VICENTE A. & MARIA B. SONGSONG & FAMILY

Kristen Stewart says she's feeling happy in her own skin

CANNES, France (AP—Kristen Stewart says she feels "pretty good" in her own skin, but that hasn't always been the case.

The 26-year-old actress, who found global fame as Bella in the hit "Twilight" movies, has been acting since childhood and admits she's struggled with confidence and self-esteem over the years.

"I understand anxiety, I definitely understand not being able to find balance between mind and body and having to struggle with that, but I feel pretty good in my own skin, luckily. It took some time, but I feel pretty good," she said earlier this week while promoting her new movie, "Personal Shopper," at the Cannes Film Festival.

However, there are occasional moments when she wishes she was someone else. "Sure, I would love to have a different face that I could put on in the morning so I could go and grab some groceries, but I don't struggle with that aversion to myself," she said.

Directed by Olivier Assayas, "Personal Shopper," a psychological thriller, stars Stewart as a fashion assistant. It follows her acclaimed turn as the personal assistant to a famous actress in Assayas' earlier film, "Clouds of Sils Maria."

"I think she's amazing. I can't praise her enough," Assayas said of his leading lady. "I think she's a unique actress. I think she's the most authentic, genuine person and what she gives to a film is amazing."

Stewart said re-teaming with Assayas was nerve-wracking.

"I was nervous when I read 'Personal Shopper' because he wrote it for me and I was like, 'What if I don't like it? What if it's not in me?' The idea of telling him that was unacceptable, but luckily I read the script and it was really just shockingly perfect for me in that moment. It was the right time for me to play that part."

In the film, her character buys designer clothes and jewelry for a celebrity, while mourning her late twin brother, with whom she believes she can communicate spiritually.

Playing a woman dealing with grief was physically and mentally challenging for Stewart. "To live with that for two and a half months and working 16-hour days and six-day weeks, and working for Chanel on my seventh day, every single week. I really earned the look," she said, referring to her exhausted and slim appearance in the film.

"I looked like a ghoul by the end of that movie, but that was what I was striving for. So it was hard, but I was so happy the whole time being kind of miserable," she added.

"Personal Shopper" is screening in competition at the Cannes Film Festival, which closes on Sunday.

AP

Director Olivier Assayas, Kristen Stewart and Nora Von Waldstatten, from left, pose for photographers upon arrival at the screening of the film Personal Shopper at the 69th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

Bad Boy concert rocks hard with Puff Daddy, Jay Z, Lil Kim

NEW YORK (AP)—Hours before Puff Daddy hit the stage for an all-star concert featuring his Bad Boy family, Jay Z and Mary J. Blige, he could not contain his excitement.

He kissed Lil Kim on the cheek and embraced her warmly. He jumped up and down as he described their upcoming tour, and he compared his team to "the hip-hop version of Kiss and the Rolling Stones wrapped up in one."

"He's in the spirit," said rapper French Montana, sitting behind Sean Combs and Lil Kim, and next to Mase. All of them matched in denim and various shades of blue.

Combs' energy reached a new height when he hit the stage Friday night at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn.

The show, ending roughly at 1:30 a.m. Saturday, was a rock star-like adventure that looked to past hits like "It's All About the Benjamins" and "I'll Be Missing You" that dominated pop and urban radio in the 1990s and 2000s, and helped make Combs a powerhouse in the music—and entertainment—industry.

AP

In this Sept. 19, 2015, file photo, Puff Daddy, left, performs with Lil Kim at the 2015 iHeartRadio Music Festival in Las Vegas.

Former members of the Bad Boy Records family—groups like 112, The Lox and Total; singers Faith Evans, Carl Thomas, Mario Winans and Cassie; and rappers Mase, Lil Cease and Black Rob—joined forces to perform hits for feverish fans who stood most of the night, and sang along to all of the songs. The night hit new levels with guest appearances from Jay Z, Blige, Nas, Usher, Rick Ross and Busta Rhymes.

Combs spoke at length onstage about his relationships with acts like Jay Z, Blige and Usher, and thanked them for being part of the special night.

"This is extended family. You been there with me through my ups and downs. Whenever I get in trouble, this is the one I call. This (is) my strategist right here. This (is) my brother," he said next to Jay Z, who earned the night's loudest applause.

But behind Jay Z was Lil Kim. She strutted onstage in a tight white ensemble while dancing and rapping familiar songs like "No Time" and "Quiet Storm (Remix)."

Jon Stewart, wife adopt horse shot with paintballs

Former "Daily Show" host Jon Stewart and his wife are giving a new home to a horse that was shot more than 100 times at close range with paintballs and lost an eye from her injuries.

Stewart and his wife, Tracey, adopted the 20-year-old horse named Lily. They have a farm in Middletown, New Jersey.

Lily was found at a sales stables in New Holland, Pennsylvania, in March. Police say the horse needed surgery to remove the injured eye. The Lancaster County SPCA has been caring for her.

Phillip Price, of East Providence, Rhode Island, was convicted Friday in New Holland of animal cruelty and other charges.

The Stewarts partnered with Farm Sanctuary last year to open an animal sanctuary at their farm. ***(AP)***

Drake leads BET Awards with 9 nods; Beyonce, Rihanna 5 each

NEW YORK (AP)—Drake is walking into the BET Awards with nine nominations, nearly doubling Beyonce and Rihanna, who are up for five awards each.

BET told The Associated Press on Thursday that Drake is nominated twice for video of the year with "Hotline Bling" and "Work" with Rihanna. Other nominees for the top prize include Beyonce's "Formation," Kendrick Lamar's "Alright" and rising newcomer Bryson Tiller's "Don't."

The BET Awards will air live June 26 from the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles.

Drake is nominated twice for best collaboration and three times for the viewer's choice award.

Couple's counseling should occur together, not apart

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend and I have been together for three years and have a 1-year-old daughter. Unfortunately, our fights have become more frequent now. She suggested counseling, which I agree with. However, she insists I'm the one who is causing the problem and I should go first.

Sometimes we fight about finances, since I work to support our family while she looks after our daughter. We are a mixed-race couple and sometimes race comes into play. She accuses me of making demands on her because of my ethnicity (e.g., "You want an obedient partner because you're Chinese"). To me, that's racist, and I have told her so. Of course she disagrees.

Needless to say, that's my version of the story. Where can I find a good therapist?

ROBERT IN NEW YORK

DEAR ROBERT: I agree you and your girlfriend could use some counseling, but you should get it TOGETHER. That your girlfriend drags race into your financial disagreements is unfair to you.

Ask your physician if he or she knows a good counselor, check with your health insurance company for a referral, or visit the New York State Psychological Association website (nyspa.org) to find someone who is licensed to practice in your state.

DEAR ABBY: I am writing about all the letters you've printed that assume every relationship must end in marriage -- or at least living together -- in order to work. It isn't so. Robert Parker, noted author of the Spenser novels, and his wife lived on separate floors of a duplex for decades. I have been with my significant other for 20 years, and the only thing that keeps us together is living apart.

In our case, we aren't married and we live in the same condo complex, a minute's walk apart. After we had spent about 10 years as a couple, the neighbors stopped asking me when we would be married.

I'm a 59-year-old woman; he's a 64-year-old man. He needs absolute minimalism in his home, as opposed to my need to have things out so I don't forget them. In short, we have different living styles.

I have met many other women who envy my living situation. They love their husbands, but find living together to be too stressful. Comments, Abby?

CINDY IN NAPLES, FLA.

DEAR CINDY: My only comment would be that I'm glad you and your significant other have found a lifestyle that works for you and fosters your relationship. I hope you have many happy years together and apart.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: If I take my wife out for a nice dinner, is it rude for her to excuse herself a couple of times during dinner to go outside and smoke a cigarette? -- DINNER FOR TWO

DEAR D.F.T.: This isn't a question of rudeness. Your wife is severely addicted to nicotine. If she could make it through the meal without a fix, I'm sure she would. How sad!

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

MOM! MOM! A BIG DOG KNOCKED ME DOWN AND HE STOLE HOBBES!
I TRIED TO CATCH HIM, BUT I COULDN'T. AND NOW I'VE LOST MY BEST FRIEND!
WELL CALVIN, IF YOU WOULDN'T DRAG THAT TIGER EVERYWHERE, THINGS LIKE THIS WOULDN'T HAPPEN.
THERE'S NO PROBLEM SO AWFUL THAT YOU CAN'T ADD SOME GUILT TO IT AND MAKE IT EVEN WORSE!
5-23
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

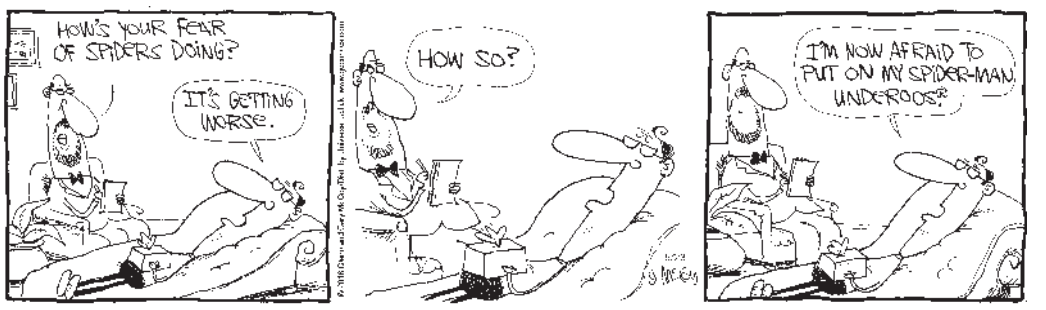
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

HOW ARE YOU DOING?
SO MUCH BETTER. I FEEL AMAZING.
I MEAN, MY HAPPINESS SHOULDN'T BE DECIDED BY ONE FAKE PUBLISHING OFFER.
GOOD FOR YOU. I'M PROUD OF YOU, ADAM.
YOU'RE PULLING YOURSELF UP BY YOUR BOOTSTRAPS!
I'VE ALSO HAD EIGHT CUPS OF COFFEE AND ABOUT 30 OF THOSE MINI TWIX BARS.
5-23

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

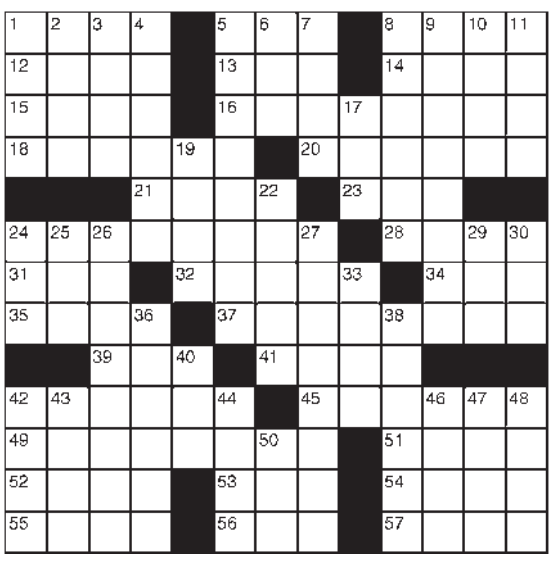
ACROSS
1 Recedes
5 Under the weather
8 Experts
12 Wife of Jacob
13 Ms. Farrow
14 Voice in an iPhone
15 Kate of "House of Cards"
16 Sylvester, to Tweety
18 Tone down
20 Widen, as pupils
21 Beige
23 Belly
24 Getting close and comfy
28 Charades player
31 Santa — winds
32 Actors Robert and Alan
34 Texas tea
35 Barn storage area
37 Out of the blue
39 Not masc.
41 Alike (Fr.)
42 Was penitent
45 Barely manages
49 Nirvana seeker
51 Aloe —
52 Theater award
53 Fish-fowl insert
54 Mideast airline
55 Use a blowtorch
56 Chap
57 Cager Archibald

DOWN
1 Stately trees
2 Boyfriend
3 Biting remark
4 Sheltered from the sun
5 Endangers
6 Actress Lucy
7 "Shane" star
8 Sanctuary
9 Summons
10 Part of Q.E.D.
11 Locale
17 Use a shovel
19 Bruins' sch.
22 Ill-deserved
24 — Tech
25 Popular card game
26 Yellow flower
27 Contraptions
29 Wire measure
30 TV Tarzan Ron
33 Minn. neighbor
36 Looked after
38 Football team
40 "I'm not impressed"
42 Take — (respond to applause)
43 Toothpaste holder
44 Little dent
46 Actress Ward
47 Nanny's headache
48 Harvard rival
50 Old French coin

Solution time: 26 mins.

B	A	N		S	T	A	B		A	I	D	A
O	R	O		H	O	R	A		X	R	A	Y
A	I	R	M	I	L	E	S		I	S	L	E
T	A	M	A	L	E		E	G	O			
			J	L			H	O	M	I	L	Y
F	E	U	D	S		R	I	B		B	O	A
E	D	G	E		P	J	T		P	A	I	
S	A	L		M	S	G		P	E	R	S	E
S	M	I	L	E	Y		A		A			
			A	R	C		H	A	R	I	N	G
S	T	O	P		H	A	M	I	L	T	O	N
T	A	T	A			W	O	N		C	R	A
D	I	T	Z		C	E	R	T		H	E	W

Friday's answer 5 - 23



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kelly Monaco, 40; Jewel, 42; Drew Carey, 58; Joan Collins, 83.

Happy Birthday: Ease in to whatever you decide to take on this year. Quality will be more important than quantity. Pacing your every move and making sure you are on target will depend on the groundwork you do first. Don't leave important jobs or personal responsibilities in someone else's hands. Do things yourself and do them right to avoid regret. Your numbers are 4, 13, 18, 22, 28, 35, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Pay close attention to your personal finances. Don't let anyone negotiate on your behalf. Stay positive and put pending problems to rest. An energetic approach will keep interference to a minimum. Learn from past relationships. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take time to network and share ideas. The people you encounter or the meetings you set up will lead to exciting opportunities. You may come across a bargain, but make sure you need the item before you reach for your wallet. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Problems with children or a close friend will be costly if you don't address issues quickly. Anger will not solve problems, but setting some boundaries will help you avoid a meltdown. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Don't hang on to people or possessions that lack meaning or substance. Put your time into building personal dreams and creating surroundings that bring you peace of mind. A partnership based on common interests will prove to be beneficial. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Speak up if someone is doing you an injustice. Standing up for your beliefs will deter anyone who is trying to bully you. Be prepared to make adjustments that suit you, and don't worry about who is on board and who isn't. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Proceed with caution if you are making personal changes. Problems at home and with important relationships will be difficult to control. Look to your close friends to help get you through trying times. Don't waffle when you should be decisive. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Set up meetings, get involved in educational pursuits and keep working at bringing about change. The things you do to improve your outlook will pay off. Don't wait until it's too late—act now. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Look for a way to be supportive or offer your services and you will come across someone who is just as intense and determined as you. Joining forces will help bring about necessary changes and give you insight into personal possibilities. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Let your work speak for you. Your unprecedented way of dealing with people and work will help you beat anyone who is trying to outdo you. Stick to your plans and don't stop until you reach your goals. An emotional encounter will bring promising results. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You can wrap things up if you stick to a set plan and budget. Don't let an emotional matter cause you to defer to someone else to step in and take over. Offer an incentive to anyone whom you fear may pose a problem. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Do things your way and don't be afraid to be different. Put your energy into displaying what you believe in. Work to bring about changes at work or at home that will lead to higher income, greater savings or future prospects. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You'll be put in a compromising position if you are not completely honest about your intentions. A discussion will turn into an argument that can damage an important relationship. Focus on offering physical help, not unwanted criticism. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are creative, dedicated and loyal. You are worldly and sophisticated.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2		8				6		3
		1	4		7	5		
3				2				4
	1		7		6		8	
				5				
	3		8		9		4	
8				7				2
		4	3		2	8		
6		7				4		1

Difficulty Level ★ 5/23

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's SUDOKU Answer

3	8	1	5	7	9	6	2	4
7	6	4	1	2	8	3	9	5
2	5	9	6	4	3	1	7	8
1	3	7	4	8	6	2	5	9
9	4	5	3	1	2	8	6	7
8	2	6	7	9	5	4	3	1
6	9	3	8	5	4	7	1	2
4	1	2	9	6	7	5	8	3
5	7	8	2	3	1	9	4	6

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 4/23

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

PRINCE (1958-2016) Solution: 9 letters

C	O	M	P	A	R	E	S	E	C	N	A	D	S	P
M	O	Y	R	O	G	E	R	G	Y	O	B	I	L	P
M	A	R	S	E	T	Y	A	M	Z	P	B	A	R	A
A	U	T	V	S	O	R	A	E	A	U	Y	M	A	I
E	A	S	T	E	C	L	T	C	R	R	R	O	E	S
R	S	A	I	I	T	B	O	A	C	P	R	N	P	L
C	U	R	A	C	E	T	S	S	O	L	E	D	O	E
G	E	T	E	R	I	E	E	H	G	E	B	S	P	Y
N	L	R	E	G	V	V	N	M	S	R	P	F	L	P
I	P	T	O	E	O	N	N	E	T	A	S	P	I	A
H	M	U	I	D	E	R	I	R	E	I	A	I	F	R
T	E	H	N	L	A	C	M	E	L	N	R	A	E	K
O	T	E	S	T	O	L	I	N	I	P	I	N	K	I
N	H	O	J	N	L	D	E	L	I	R	I	O	U	S
W	N	O	I	T	U	L	O	V	E	R	L	U	O	S

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Adore, Beret, Boy Gregory, Cashmere, Compares, Corvette, Cream, Dance, Delirious, Diamonds, Garcia, Icon, John, Kiss, Let's Go Crazy, Mattie, Mayte, Minnesota, Music, Nelson, Nothing, Paisley Park, Pearls, Piano, Pink, Play, Pop Life, Purple Rain, Raspberry, Revolution, Rogers, Sets, Solo, Soul, Star, Temple, Testolini, Thieves, When Doves Cry

Last Thursday's Answer: Pull

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: The cow jumped over the moon

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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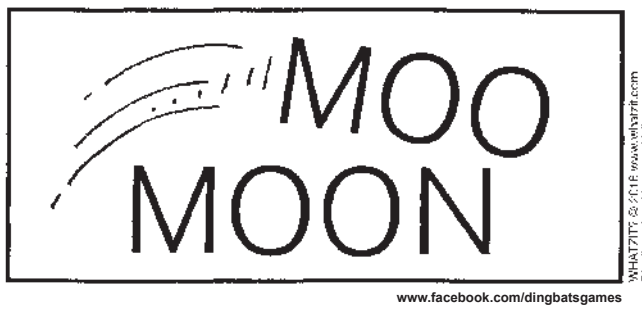
All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



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Find today's solution in classified section

PKCL ENTERPRISES

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Building Maintenance Repairer (2)
High School graduate or equivalent, 5 years work experience in plumbing, electrical, carpentry, painting, masonry, and various other construction and repair work. $6.05/hour

Grounds Maintenance (1)
High School graduate or equivalent with 5 years work experience. Must be honest and trustworthy. Works flexible hours. $6.05/hour

Send resume to PKCL ENTERPRISES, P.O. Box 501957, Saipan MP 96950

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than June 2, 2016. Applications for employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

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Raptors end Cavaliers' streak with Game 3 win

AP
Toronto Raptors center-forward Bismack Biyombo, top center, picks up a foul as he stops Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James during the second half of Game 3 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals in Toronto on Saturday, May 21, 2016.

TORONTO (AP)—Cleveland's perfect playoff run went south in the north.

DeMar DeRozan scored 32 points, Bismack Biyombo set a Toronto playoff record with 26 rebounds and the Raptors beat Cleveland 99-84 in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference Finals on Saturday night, handing the Cavaliers their first loss this postseason.

Kyle Lowry scored 20 points, Cory Joseph added 14, and Patrick Patterson and DeMarre Carroll each had 10 for the Raptors. They rebounded after losing the first two games in Cleveland by a combined 50 points.

In Toronto, where "We The North" is a rallying cry, a sell-out crowd dressed in red and white T-shirts cheered the Raptors to their seventh victory in nine home playoff games. Game 4 is Monday night at Air Canada Centre.

"It's a long series," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said. "It's not over with yet, but everybody thought we were going to get swept. I think that fuels us and if that's what it takes, so be it."

LeBron James scored 24 points, and J.R. Smith had 22 for the Cavaliers. They won their first 10 playoff games and were trying to match the Los Angeles Lakers' record of 11 straight victories to begin a postseason. The Lakers did it in 1989 and again in 2001.

"We didn't play our game and they made us pay for it," James said. "We didn't start the game as physical as we should have at the point of attack."

Biyombo had four blocks, helping Toronto limit the Cavaliers to 20 points in the paint. The Cavs had 106 points in the paint in the first two games.

"It was amazing, honestly," DeRozan said about Biyombo's performance. "He was big time tonight. Without him, we probably would't get this win."

Kyrie Irving scored 13 points, and Channing Frye had 11 for Cleveland. The Cavaliers were held below 100 points for the first time in these playoffs.

"They came out and they beat us," Cleveland coach Tyronn Lue said. "They were more aggressive. They were more physical. They were more active. They were faster. They beat us to the ball."

James had five assists, moving past Jason Kidd and into third place on the NBA's career playoff list.

It was a rough night for Cavaliers forward Kevin Love, who scored three points and made just one of nine field goal attempts. Irving also struggled with his shooting, missing 16 of 19.

"Those guys will be better," James pledged.

Irving checked out at 1:38 of the fourth quarter and had to be helped to the locker room following a collision with Joseph.

"I just got the wind knocked out of me," Irving said.

With his team ahead by eight, Biyombo scored six straight points in the fourth to put the Raptors up 91-77 at 3:38.

"He was huge," Casey said. "I thought he played a big-time game in the paint."

DeRozan scored 12 points in the first but saw a buzzer-beating 3 waved off after video review. Lowry scored eight points despite picking up his second four at 5:40 as Toronto led 30-24 after one. It was the first time in nine quarters this series that the Raptors had outscored the Cavaliers.

Carroll, Joseph and Patterson each made 3-pointers during a 16-2 Toronto run midway through the second as the Raptors overcame Lowry's third foul to take a 54-37 lead.

James went down clutching his face after being accidentally elbowed by Thompson during a scuffle at center court late in the second. Thompson and Joseph were given technicals on the play. James recovered to make a 3 in the final seconds, but Cleveland trailed 60-47 at halftime.

"Our second quarter lineup didn't do a great job of paying attention to detail," James said. "They were able to bust the game open."

Biyombo went down in pain at the end of the game after taking a knock below the belt. "I got hit in an area I probably wasn't supposed to get hit in," Biyombo said. "Whenever the league has a chance they should take a look."

Lue said he had no problem with Biyombo wagging his finger, Dikembe Mutombo-style, after blocked shots. "They were kicking our butts, so he should have the right to wave his finger until we do something about it," Lue said. For his part, Biyombo said he'd got a "licence" from Mutombo to copy Hall of Famer's celebration.

Donovan, Kerr took very different paths to NBA coaching

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Billy Donovan is trying to accomplish the improbable and lead the Oklahoma City Thunder to a championship as a first-year NBA coach, just as Steve Kerr did guiding Golden State to its first title in 40 years last June in his rookie season running the Warriors.

These two have become friends along the way during their drastically different journeys to the NBA bench. Their personalities are polar opposites, too, with Kerr cracking jokes and even stopping his press conferences to give writers time to post important Warriors news to their Twitter followers. Donovan is typically straight-faced and serious.

While working as a television analyst for TNT, Kerr enjoyed getting to know Donovan while covering his Florida squad in the NCAA Tournament and made an effort to keep in touch - even as Donovan began the daunting process of leaving the college game for the next level.

Now, their teams are knotted at 1-1 in the best-of-seven Western Conference finals, which resume Sunday night at Oklahoma City.

"Billy's a great coach. I got to know him when I was doing NCAA Tournament games at TNT, and I did a few Florida games and had a chance to visit with him," Kerr said. "We actually stayed in touch before he took that other job in the last couple of years, just on random coaching thoughts. If either one of us had any possible coaching positions that we were looking at, we tended to call each other."

The Thunder hired Donovan after his successful two-decade college coaching career that included two national championships, four trips to the Final Four and 14 NCAA Tournament berths.

Kerr, on the other hand, had never been a head coach at any level when the Warriors grabbed him from his TV gig. He just won Coach of the Year in his second season despite missing the initial 43 games while on a leave of absence recovering from complications after two back surgeries. Defending champion Golden State had an NBA-record 24-0 start and finished with 73 wins to top the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls team that Kerr was on alongside Michael Jordan.

Kerr has shared his experiences with Donovan about working in the front office as general manager of the Phoenix Suns before returning to television and then entering the coaching ranks with no experience.

Both former point guards, Kerr won five championships in 15 years as a player. Donovan appeared in 44 career games total with no starts and 105 points in his one NBA season with the Knicks in 1987-88. He preaches to his players about the importance of a tough-minded approach at this high-stakes stage of the season - especially in a raucous road environment.

"Steve's been a great friend. Someone that I've been able to build a relationship with for a long period of time," Donovan said. "I've always liked Steve. We've talked about different things. Talked about the NBA, and even talked about himself maybe going into coaching and himself being in the front office. ... He's just a great, down-to-earth guy, and just through being in college coaching and him covering and doing games we've just kind of been able to build a relationship over the years."

Nadal back in Paris, no title to defend, no Federer to face

PARIS (AP)—Through the years, Rafael Nadal grew accustomed to a couple of givens at the French Open: He would arrive as the defending champion, and Roger Federer would be somewhere in the draw, often awaiting a showdown in the final.

This time around, neither is the case.

Federer withdrew a few days before Sunday's start of the clay-court Grand Slam tournament, ending his record run of 65 consecutive major appearances.

"For the fans, for the tournament, for the world (of) tennis, in general, is ... very negative news, no?" Nadal said.

Nadal won the title at Roland Garros every year from 2005-08 and from 2010-14 - a record nine in all, beating Federer in four of those finals - but returns to town trying to earn back the trophy after relinquishing it in 2015.

He is seeded fourth.

"It's a tournament that I know I can play well," said Nadal, who lost in the quarterfinals to Novak Djokovic a year ago. "If I am playing well, I know I can do good things."

Nadal, who owns 14 major championships in all, could face No. 1 Djokovic in about two weeks in the semifinals—on what would be the Spaniard's 30th birthday.

Asked about that milestone, Nadal waxed philosophical.

"You know, time never stops. Nobody stops the time," he said. "That's not a good thing, but at the same time, I am happy with my life. I enjoyed all these years on the tour, and I hope to keep enjoying the next couple of years."

After dealing with health problems and a crisis of confidence last season, Nadal has been playing better on his favorite red clay of late.

He is 19-4 on the surface this season, including titles at Monte Carlo and Barcelona. Not bad, but not up to his old standards. In his past two tournaments, Nadal lost in the Madrid semifinals to Andy Murray, and the Rome quarterfinals to Djokovic.

"A lot of tournaments in a row playing well," said Nadal, who faces Sam Groth in the first round in Paris. "I need to just keep going."

Bradley extends run in Red Sox rout of Indians

BOSTON (AP)—In the midst of yet another offensive outburst from the Boston Red Sox, outfielder Jackie Bradley extended his MLB hit streak on Saturday.

The Red Sox accounted for the Cleveland Indians 9-1 as Bradley made it 26 consecutive games with a hit.

Since 2006, only Manny Ramirez (27) has enjoyed a longer hit streak for the Red Sox than the one Bradley's current streak. Dom DiMaggio set the Red Sox record of a 34-game hitting streak in 1949.

However, Mookie Betts was the star of the show, going three-for-five with three runs scored, two home runs—including a grand slam—and five RBIs.

Giants 5, Cubs 3

In San Francisco, Matt Cain pitched six strong innings and helped himself with his bat, Buster Posey added a two-run homer and the San Francisco Giants beat the Chicago Cubs.

Cain (1-5) got his first victory since July 22, 2015, against San Diego, snapping a streak of 15 consecutive winless starts. Cain also had a two-run double in the second inning.

Padres 3, Dodgers 2, 11 innings

In San Diego, Yangervis Solarte, fresh off the disabled list, drew a bases-loaded walk with two outs in the 11th inning to give the San Diego Padres their second straight walkoff victory against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Solarte drew four straight balls from Chin-Hui Tsao (0-1) to bring in Wil Myers for the winning run.

Marlins 3, Nationals 2

In Miami, Jose Fernandez pitched six innings and then led the dugout celebration as Miami made him a winner again at Marlins Park by beating Washington.

Fernandez (6-2) allowed one run, struck out nine and improved to 21-1 in 31 starts at home.

When Justin Bour put Miami ahead to stay with a two-run homer in the sixth, Fernandez leaped onto the dugout ledge, pounded the railing and hopped happily as he screamed.

Royals 2, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Lorenzo Cain hit a solo home run and five Kansas City pitchers combined to allow seven hits in the Royals' victory over slumping Chicago.

Danny Duffy and Peter Moylan combined for six scoreless innings. Joakim Soria (2-1) worked out of a seventh-inning jam and Wade Davis pitched a hitless ninth for his 11th save in Kansas City's second straight win over the AL Central leaders.

Rangers 2, Astros 1

In Houston, Elvis Andrus hit his first home run of the season, Cesar Ramos pitched six solid innings and Texas edged Houston.

The homer by Andrus, which landed in the left-field seats, came with two outs and a full count to put Texas up 1-0 in the second inning. Rougned Odor made it 2-0 with an RBI single in the third.

Yankees 5, Athletics 1

In Oakland, Starlin Castro broke out of a slump with three hits, Carlos Beltran singled twice to keep up his recent tear and New York won its season-high fourth straight game.

Masahiro Tanaka pitched seven innings to win Joe Girardi's 1,500th game as a manager.

Mets 5, Brewers 4

In New York, David Wright singled home the winning run on a 3-0 pitch with the bases loaded in the bottom of the ninth inning, and New York rallied past Milwaukee.

Curtis Granderson hit his latest leadoff homer for the Mets, and Yoenis Cespedes tied the score in the sixth with a two-run shot that chased rookie starter Zach Davies.

Tigers 5, Rays 4

In Detroit, Michael Fulmer struck out 11 over seven sparkling innings and Cameron Maybin, James McCann and J.D. Martinez all homered to lift the Detroit Tigers to a 5-4 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Saturday.

Making only his fifth major league start, Fulmer (3-1) allowed a run on four hits and a walk.

Cardinals 6, Diamondbacks 2

In St. Louis, Jedd Gyorko, Matt Adams and Yadier Molina homered and Mike Leake pitched seven scoreless innings for St. Louis.

Leake (3-3) retired eight straight between the second and fourth innings and battled back from a 3-0 count to strike out Chris Owings in the fifth to help thwart the Diamondbacks' best scoring opportunity against him.

Rockies 5, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Cristhian Adames' first career homer capped a four-run ninth inning as Colorado rallied to beat closer Mark Melancon and Pittsburgh, ending an eight-game losing streak against the Pirates.

Adames' two-run shot to straightaway center field came after Tony Wolters singled off Melancon (0-1) to snap a 1-1 tie and another run scored on first baseman John Jaso's error.

Twins 5, Blue Jays 3

In Minneapolis, Eduardo Nunez homered to cap a five-run rally in the eighth inning as Minnesota suddenly broke loose.

The Twins had been shut out on just one hit -- a double by Nunez -- by J.A. Happ and trailed 2-0 going into the eighth. They came back to win for only the fourth time in 21 games.

AP

Boston Red Sox's Mookie Betts, right, celebrates his grand slam that also drove in Christian Vazquez (7) and Jackie Bradley Jr., left, during the seventh inning of a baseball game against the Cleveland Indians in Boston, Saturday, May 21, 2016.

Mariners 4, Reds 0

In Cincinnati, Franklin Gutierrez hit a three-run homer that landed high in the upper deck, and Felix Hernandez allowed only four singles in six innings, leading Seattle over Cincinnati Reds on a day when they honored their shared star.

The Reds gave away Ken Griffey Jr. bobbleheads depicting him in both uniforms, and they played a message from him on the videoboard.

Braves 2, Phillies 0

In Philadelphia, Williams Perez took a two-hitter into the seventh, helping Atlanta beat Philadelphia for just its second series win this season.

On a cold, rainy afternoon, Perez (2-1) celebrated his 25th birthday with another dominant performance against the Phillies. He gave up two hits, walked one and struck out in 6 1/3 innings.

Orioles 3, Angels 1

In Anaheim, Matt Wieters hit a three-run homer with two outs in the top of the ninth inning to lift the Baltimore Orioles over the Los Angeles Angels.

Wieters, who ended Matt Shoemaker's perfect game bid with a double in the fifth, lifted a 1-0 sinker from Joe Smith (1-3) over the wall in put the Orioles ahead after they were down to their final out.

Koepka overcomes early bogeys, Spieth for lead at Nelson

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Brooks Koepka knew all those spectators lined several deep along the fairways and around the greens were there to cheer for one his playing partners.

Many of them were lugging around some of the 8,000 Jordan Spieth bobbleheads given away Saturday at the Byron Nelson or using hand-held fans with his picture. They also got to watch the third-round leader play.

Koepka overcame two early bogeys and the huge shadow of playing alongside Spieth in his home event, shooting a 5-under 65 and matching the Nelson's best 54-hole score at 16-under 194. He had a two-stroke lead over Spieth going into Sunday's final round when they will be paired together again.

"Doesn't really bother me. I mean he's got a lot of support which is cool to see," said Koepka, describing himself as a chilled athlete. "He has grown up here. ... He should."

Spieth played his first PGA Tour event at the Nelson as a 16-year-old amateur six years ago. He is now the world's No. 2-ranked player and his image is everywhere at TPC Four Seasons, including those treasured bobbleheads and on signage for AT&T, which sponsors him and this tournament.

Playing in the final threesome with Spieth and second-round leader Ben Crane, Koepka hit his first drive way left on the way to an opening bogey. There were birdies at Nos. 3 and 5, but Koepka followed with another bogey at No. 6 when he hit his first two shots into the rough.

But Koepka was bogey-free the rest of the day and took the lead with a 20-foot birdie at the difficult 405-yard 14th hole. Spieth drained a 23-foot putt there to salvage a bogey after hitting his drive into the water and having to punch a shot back into the fairway.

"Powerful. Fearless and powerful," Spieth said when asked to describe Koepka's game.

Matt Kuchar (65), Bud Cauley (68) and Sergio Garcia (68) were tied for third at 13 under.

Crane, who turned 40 in March, shot 72 and dropped to 10 under and in a tie for 11th.

Even though Koepka played well enough to take a two-stroke lead, he felt like he hit the ball terrible and that his round "wasn't anything to brag about at all" with the exception of the round-low 22 putts.

"It wasn't good today. It was kind of embarrassing," Koepka said. "We both kind of hung in there, battled it out and we made some good, good key 10-footers."

A stressful round is what Spieth called it.

"I just don't have confidence over the ball right now," he said. "It's very frustrating and actually pretty incredible to still be in this tournament."

Garcia was 15 under and with the outright lead after his fourth birdie of the round, and second in a row, when he made a 25-footer at No. 8. But the 36-year-old Spaniard, the 2004 Nelson champion, then three-putted from nearly 60 feet at the 9th hole before missing the fairway with his drive for another bogey at No. 10.

Man United ends drought; Van Gaal future uncertain

LONDON (AP)—Louis van Gaal had little time to savor delivering Manchester United's first trophy since the Alex Ferguson dynasty ended three years ago.

Within an hour of collecting the FA Cup after Saturday's victory over Crystal Palace, Van Gaal left his jubilant players to be faced with more uncertainty about his United future now the season is over.

For six months United has not challenged the veracity of reports that the American ownership will ditch Van Gaal before his third season in charge and bring in Jose Mourinho. United's leadership still remained silent on Saturday, rather than publicly backing Van Gaal.

Just before Van Gaal entered the Wembley Stadium news conference after the 2-1 victory over Palace in extra time, fresh reports emerged that Mourinho's hiring was inching closer.

"I don't want to talk about leaving," Van Gaal responded when it was highlighted that United hasn't denied it plans to recruit Mourinho.

Mourinho did not comment when approached by reporters at a boxing event in London on Saturday. Fired by Chelsea in December, Mourinho told The Associated Press last week that he would sign a contract with a new team by the end of next month.

Van Gaal had the air of a manager on the way out during a combative exchange with reporters at Wembley. The 64-year-old Dutchman delivered a defense of his United reign and claimed internal restrictions prevented him from achieving more this season. United failed to achieve its ultimate goal of Champions League qualification after finishing fifth in the Premier League.

Asked about targets for next season if he stayed in charge, Van Gaal responded: "That's dependable because also last season I have asked for players but you don't think that the players I have asked (for) have come."

Van Gaal complained that clubs more than double the cost of players when the record 20-time English champions make an approach.

"I need the players that I have asked (for)," he said. "I have said I want creative, fast wingers ... and we didn't do that because it was not possible."

Clicking his fingers, Van Gaal said: "You are thinking everything is possible at Manchester United. No. I'm sorry. It is not."

Nor does winning the world's oldest football cup competition necessarily guarantee keeping your job.

What Van Gaal has done—largely due to injuries—is adhere to the club's traditions of utilizing academy graduates. One produced the winning moment in extra time as Jesse Lingard netted five minutes after United was reduced to 10 men in the 135th FA Cup final.

AP

United players celebrate at the end of the English FA Cup final soccer match between Manchester United and Crystal Palace at Wembley stadium in London, Saturday, May 21, 2016. United won, 2-1.

The Palace defense only half-cleared Antonio Valencia's cross and Lingard volleyed into the top corner of the net to complete United's comeback.

"We've had a tough end to the season but I thought we worked very hard today—our determination got us through this so I'm delighted," United captain Wayne Rooney said. "It's been a (while to win a cup).

"Winning trophies lifts football clubs and lifts supporters. The fans have had a tough few years. Hopefully they enjoy tonight."

United showed the fighting spirit often lacking under Van Gaal to provide a winning end to the campaign.

Alan Pardew won't. The Palace manager produced a giddy jig on the touchline after Jason Puncheon put the London club ahead in the 78th minute. But within three minutes, Rooney waltzed through the Palace defense before whipping in a cross that Juan Mata equalized from.

Brad Guzan to start for US in Copa America tourney

NEW YORK (AP)—Goalkeeper Brad Guzan is set to start ahead of veteran Tim Howard for the U.S. national team in the Copa America tournament.

Coach Jurgen Klinsmann announced the 23-man roster Saturday during halftime of the MLS rivalry game between New York City FC and the New York Red Bulls. The roster features 15 players from the 2014 World Cup team.

"We will go with Brad Guzan as the No. 1 at the Copa America. That's the decision that we made," Klinsmann told FOX Sports for the halftime announcement. "We had good talks with both goalkeepers. Tim Howard is there to support Brad 24-7. But it's important that both goalkeepers know what is the ranking right now."

Howard, who played for Everton for nine seasons until signing with the Colorado Rapids in March, was the national team's starter in goal for the World Cup in Brazil. Afterward, he took time off from the U.S. team and Guzan took over as starter. Upon Howard's return, the two keepers rotated.

Perhaps the biggest surprise on the roster itself was the exclusion of Seattle Sounders forward Jordan Morris. Klinsmann named Clint Dempsey, Chris Wondolowski, Bobby Wood and Gyasi Zardes at forward.

There was the possibility that Morris might make the roster in the absence of Jozy Altidore, who was injured while taking a penalty kick for Toronto FC against the Vancouver Whitecaps last weekend. Altidore is expected to miss six to eight weeks.

"It came down to Wondo (Wondolowski) or Jordan," Klinsmann said. "And we decided at this moment to go with Wondo. He's in top form, he's scoring a lot of goals for the (San Jose) Earthquakes. Obviously when you take certain players in one area you have to leave other ones out."

The roster includes three goalkeepers, eight defenders and 12 midfielders/forwards. Eighteen players have appeared for the United States in World Cup qualifying.

The youngest player is 17-year-old Christian Pulisic, who has one previous appearance with the national team, and played with Borussia Dortmund, where he became the youngest player ever to score two goals in the Bundesliga.

The U.S. opens the 16-nation Copa America against Colombia on June 3 in Santa Clara, California. It then plays Costa Rica four days later at Chicago and closes the first round June 11 against Paraguay in Philadelphia.

A number of the players named to the Copa Roster won't be available for Sunday's U.S. exhibition at Puerto Rico because of Major League Soccer obligations. But most should be return to the national team for matches against Ecuador on Wednesday in Texas and Bolivia on Saturday in Kansas City, Kansas.

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stole the thunder from their ranked opponents, slipping past No. 3 seeds Ting-Hao Hsu and Wang of Chinese Taipei in the other Final Four pairing, 3-6, 6-3, 11-9.

In the girls division, Chen partnered with Ting-Chie Wei in rallying past the top-ranked pair of Tanaka ang Hong Kong's Claudia Ng in the finals, 2-6, 6-3, 10-7. The No. 2 seed Taiwanese marched into the title game after a similar super tiebreaker win against Hong Kong's Avril Look and Wong in the semis, 6-4, 4-6, 10-7. Ng and Tanaka, on the other hand, needed only two sets to oust Japan's Yuna Fukumuro and Haruka Yoshino, 6-4, 6-1, to gain a finals entry.

COMETS

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tin Magofna also singled and brought home two runners before reaching home plate, too off a stolen base. Ross Arriola also stole home for the Comets' 6-0 advantage after one complete inning.

The Little Legals' misfortunes continued as they were called for 1-2-3 inning in the second, third, and fifth and were done in the fourth after only four batters with no runner making it past first base.

The Comets, on the other hand, slowly built a double-digit lead after earning two runs each in the second and fourth and one apiece in the third and fifth. Five of the eventual champions' last six runs were off the Little Legals' errors, while the final was courtesy off Nakamura's RBI single at the bottom of the fifth.

At the top of the sixth and last inning, Nakamura was still on the mound to finish things off for the Comets. He got the two quick outs after fanning out leadoff batter Derence Diaz and Kaipo Dikito. A single from Alvin Hocog foiled Nakamura's bid for another 1-2-3 inning and the former finally put the Little Legals on the board when he reached home along with Lucio Aldan after a series of miscues from the Comets.

The defensive lapses happened with Nakamura just one strikeout away from wrapping up the match with Aldan at bat. Actually, Nakamura got the strikeout, but it was called as dropped third strike with catcher Teregeyo failing to tag out Aldan and instead had a wild throw at first base.

With the Comets struggling to pick up the ball, the elated Little Legals managed to score two runs to stay in the game. However, the Little Legals' celebration was short-lived as the Comets ended the match in the ensuing play with leftfielder R.J. Muna catching a fly ball from June Sablan.

LADY

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Travilla led all scorers with her 16 points, while Villagomez chipped in 11 markers.

Karleen Reyes, Joanie Paraiso, Janika Taimanao, Quina Flores, Louisa Han, Han Ya, Cho Hyo Lim, and Quincy Chinen were the MCS players who hit the board in the finals. Also included on the team's roster were Yuri Fukushi, Karen Sato, and Ellie Lee, while Catherine Attao-Toves coached the champion squad.

The Lady Knight managed to take the title and posted a double-digit winning margin despite of the Lady Geckos' good start. SIS caught Mt. Carmel off guard in the opening canto, leading at 14-11. Kerri Callahan gave the Lady Geckos the upper hand after dropping 6 of her team-high 11 points in the first period. Kai Tamn added 4 markers, while Minami Sakai and Gillian Villagomez chipped in 2 apiece.

However, SIS could not keep its momentum in the last three quarters, while MCS began hitting its target to grab the lead en route to the 24-point win.

The Lady Knights took the driver's seat early in the second canto after scoring 8 points and holding the Lady Geckos to a hair off Villagomez's split charity, 19-15. Mt. Carmel then widened the gap in the third after it knocked in four triples, two coming from Travilla. The Lady Knights incoming senior scored 10 points in the third, lifting her team to a 39-22 advantage.

SIS never recovered from thereon, as it continued to struggle on offense in the fourth, making only two field goals and 4 points.

MCS 50 – Travilla 16, Villagomez 11, Reyes 7, Paraiso 4, Taimanao 4, Flores 3, Han 2, Cho 1, Ya 1, Chinen 1.

SIS 26 – Callahan 11, Villagomez 5, Tamn 6, Sakai 2, Calvert 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-14, 19-15, 39-22, 50-26.

Twins wins for Tan Holdings; split for Matansa, Kanoa

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Tan Holdings Football Club claimed the U8 and U10 division crowns, while Matansa and Kanoa split the U12 titles in the 2016 NMIFA 3v3 Tournament/ AFC Grassroots Football Day held last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Tan Holdings won the U8 championship following a 4-2 triumph over Kanoa in the finals. It was Tan Holdings' second straight division crown in the same tournament as it defeated MP United 1, 3-1, in the 2015 title match. The back-to-back winners earned a return trip to the finals after downing MP United, 4-0, in the semi-finals, while Kanoa prevailed against Matansa in the other Final Four pairing, 5-0.

The Final Four in the U8 division were selected based on their records in the round-robin elimination. Kanoa topped the five-team field with its 3-1-0 win-draw-loss mark, followed by Tan Holdings (2-2-0), MP United (2-1-1), Matansa (1-0-3), and Paire (0-0-4).

In the U10 age group, Tan Holdings also earned its second straight division title following Tan Holdings 1's 5-0 victory over MP United 1. Last year, Tan Holdings beat an MP United team (MPU Blue, 2-0), too. Tan Holdings 1 made it to the finals after knocking out Paire, 3-2, while MP United 1 ousted Matansa, 2-1.

MP United 1, Tan Holdings 1, and Paire finished with similar 3-0-1 records in the elimination and were ranked first to third after the tiebreak to advance to the semis. Matansa completed the semis cast with its 2-1-1 slate, while Tan Holdings 2 (1-1-2), MP United 2 (1-0-3), and Kanoa (0-0-4) missed the cut.

After falling short in its title bid in the U8 and U10 age groups, Matansa finally made it to the champions circle after ruling the U12B category. Actually, it was an all Matansa-finale in the division with Matansa 1 blanking Matansa 2, 5-0.

Matansa 1 and 2 had identical 3-0-0 records in the elimination to barge into the playoff round and the former eventually took the first finals berth after a 3-2 win over MP United 2. Matansa 2 beat MP United 1, 6-2, in the other semis pairing.

In the U12A division there were also two MP United teams that entered the playoffs, but both faltered in their title bids, as it was Kanoa 2 which claimed the age group championship after winning over MP United 1 in the finals, 5-4. Kanoa 2 booked a finals berth following an 8-5 victory over Tan Holdings, while MP United 1 topped sister team MP United 2, 5-2.

MP United 1 placed first in the elimination after earning a 3-1-0 record, while Tan Holdings and Kanoa 2 came in at second and third with their 2-2-0 and 2-1-1 marks, respectively, and MP United 2 (2-0-2) was ranked fourth.

Meanwhile, each member of the division champions received miniature trophies at the conclusion of the annual competition, while the runners-up took home medals.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of the champion and runner-up teams pose for a group photo at the conclusion of the 2016 NMIFA 3v3 Tournament/AFC Grassroots Football Day last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Tan Holdings U10 players and their coaches gather for a group photo. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tan Holdings U8 players and their coach pose for a photo after receiving their trophies.

A Matansa female player dribbles in front of two Kanoa FC defenders. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kanoa FC's Jaydee Jose kicks the ball in between the defense of two Tan Holdings players.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Paire player, left, dribbles away from his MP United defender.

Raptors end Cavaliers' streak with Game 3 win

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Sports

Bradley extends run in Red Sox rout of Indians

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Comets dominate Little Legals in finale

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Comets' Bing Nakamura delivers a pitch to the Little Legals' Kaipo Dikito at the top of the sixth inning of their title game in the Majors division of the 2016 SSLB yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Comets capped their perfect run in the Majors division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball with a 12-2 title win over the Kagman Little Legals yesterday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Pitcher Bing Nakamura led the championship victory, as he threw a two-hitter and struck out nine in a no relief job. He was also flawless at the plate, going 4-for-4 and scoring three RBIs, three singles, three runs, and a double.

Nakamura was eventually named Finals MVP after handing the Comets their 15th win in as many games in the 2016 season. The Comets swept the 12-game regular season and crushed McDonald's, 13-3, and the Ol'Aces, 21-0, in the first two matches in the playoffs before meeting the Little Legals in the finals.

The Little Legals made it to the title match following an 11-1 triumph over the Falcons last Saturday, but failed to carry that momentum in yesterday's finale after struggling at the plate against Nakamura and the Comets' strong defense.

The Little Legals did not score a single run in the first five innings, while the Comets found their targets early, tallying six runs at the bottom of the first. Nakamura fired up the Comets' offense with a two-run single, while Jus-

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Japanese, Taiwanese rule ITF Juniors event

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Players from Japan and Chinese-Taipei went home victorious after topping their respective competitions in the 2016 IT&E Northern Marianas Juniors Championships over at the weekend at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

In the boys singles finals, No. 1 seed and Taiwanese Cing-Yang Meng lived up to his lofty billing after spoiling the upset bid of unranked Japanese Seita Watanabe, 7-6 (9), 7-6 (4), yesterday. Meng moved into the title game following a 6-4, 6-3 triumph over another Japan bet Ryuki Matsuda in the semifinal game at the upper half of the draw last Saturday. At the lower half's semis match, Watanabe edged compatriot Ryoma Matsushita, 6-2, 7-5.

In the girls singles, it was also a Japan versus Chinese-Taipei affair with the former's Rika Tanaka averting a Taiwanese sweep after edging Yuelin Chen, 6-3, 6-4. The girls finale was a battle between the seeded players in the field with Tanaka the top-ranked netter and Chen picked at No. 4.

Chen was also the tormentor of CNMI bet Carol Lee, as the Chinese-Taipei player ended the host's bid for a semis berth last Friday after pulling off a 0-6, 6-0, 7-6 (5) victory at the lower half of the draw. The Taiwanese then made it to the finals following a 6-3, 6-1 semis triumph over Japanese qualifier Saiki Oyama, a 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 winner versus compatriot Mana Kawamura in the quarterfinals.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
CNMI coach Jeff Race, left, Oceania Tennis Federation's Patrick O' Rourke, right join the Top 2 finishers in the girls doubles event of the 2016 IT&E Northern Marianas Juniors Championships during the awards ceremony at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts over the weekend.

In the other quarterfinal matches, Tanaka dispatched Palau's Ayana Rengiil, 7-6 (3), 6-0, while Hong Kong's Yong Hi Wong stunned the No. 3 seed Sara Tsukamoto, 7-5, 7-5. Wong's upset axe, however, did not work on Tanaka as the Japanese eliminated the Hong Kong player, 6-3, 6-1, to move a win away from clinching the division crown.

Meanwhile, Japan and Chi-

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Lady Knights claim fourth straight title

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Mt. Carmel School player is up against three Saipan International School defenders during their title match in the COPSSA girls caging last Friday at the MCS Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mt. Carmel School's Lady Knights extended their reign in the high school division of the Coalition of Private School Sports Association Basketball League after ruling the 2015-2016 season of the competition.

Mt. Carmel routed Saipan International School, 50-26, in last Friday's finals at the MCS Gymnasium for the Lady Knights' fourth consecutive championship in the division and third straight against the Lady Geckos. MCS whipped SIS in the 2014 finale, 57-7, and had a repeat last year, 45-21. The Lady Knights started the string of championships in 2013 when they dominated Grace Christian Academy, 48-27.

Jan Travilla and Jennifer Villagomez kept the streak as they combined for more than half of Mt. Carmel's output in the finals and even outgunned the entire SIS crew.

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